

U. S. Department of Justice

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FEDERAL BUREAU

of

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INVESTIGATION

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See also Nos.

DO NOT DESTROY
HISTORICAL VALUE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

157-1008

157-1006

Serials

Volume Number

W 43285 DocId:32582556

SAC, BALTIMORE (157-5068)

10/28/71

SA KEVIN FOLEY

BLACK EXTREMIST ACTIVITIES
IN PENAL INSTITUTIONS

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

made available correspondence from SAM BERRY, 4834 Carmine Avenue, Baltimore, Md. to inmate EARL AHMED KNIGHT, JR., and a copy of a letter from KNIGHT to his father, EARL KNIGHT, SR., 1411 Division Street, Apartment # 43, Carver Hall Apartments, Baltimore, Maryland, 21217. A copy of the above correspondence is attached, hereto.

- 4 - Baltimore
1 - 157-5068
1 - 157-6420 (SAM BERRY)
1 - 157-6421 (EARL AHMED KNIGHT)
1 - 157-1008 (Deacons for Defense)

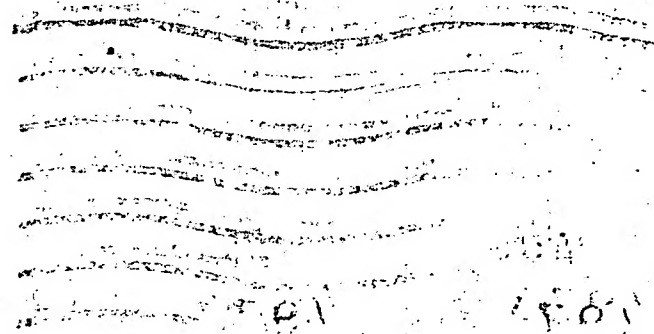
KF/kf
(4)

157-1008-80

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
OCT 28 1971	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

4

S. Berry
4834 Carmine Ave
Balto. Md. 21207



Mr. Earl Ahmed Fought Jr.
P.O. Box #534
Jepp Md. 20794

E2-3



Aug. 22, 1971

Best copy available

made,
Virginia's address is 352 Jefferson Ave. Brooklyn, N.Y.
name (full) is Virginia Berry Jackson and that's my
mother's address but she can be reached there.
I've been out
town for a week (Eastern Shore) and I've got to go
C. Mon or Tues. to attend to personal and political business.
I know you have heard about the revolutionary sacrifice
George Jackson made, it's a tragedy, but what's most
important is that for once a major attempt was made to
an individual from a maximum security pig sty
political reasons. After analyzing the act I do
think that attempts should be made in that vein, to
all prisoners especially black.
your ideas put them on paper like I do so that you
don't forget them. We need all that we can get. I've
been wondering why your lady shied away from Defense.
I keep searching, put her in contact with my
sister. I might add that the idea of having a sister
Min. of Defense unit tokenism will have as many
people as qualify in as many positions as possible.
I'm not surprised if you receive letters from strange
places, strange people, more than likely they'll be
white people. I'll be waiting for some comrades
top by, I must say that I was impressed by the
sincerity and degree of political awareness that some
of the comrades displayed on my "graduation" visit.

merely the first step, the second and the most
tant is to maintain that consciousness after
released. Black O's face the same problem.
institutionalized oppression behind bars, military etc.
calizes many individuals but after release the
tation of the evils of "ROME" de-radicalizes the
individuals.

might add that you ^{should} relate the importance of reading
only hard political theory to the brothers but also ^{reading}
Pig Press to obtain certain hard facts about
ent events, international situations etc. For instance,
Nixon's Economic policy and how it relates to
PEOPLE. Here's an idea I've been toying with:
political education classes should combine lessons
current events - hard political theory and economic systems.
instance most Panthers can give vague definitions of
talism and take you on rhetorical trips about it
very few can take the system apart, define it, relate
evils, and do that in detail. Dig? We should
classes on American Capitalism, the system and
ther economic systems Socialism - Communism etc.)
must seek to ~~on~~ arm ourselves politically and
tarily, that's the key. We should not turn into
ial reformers like the Party, nor should we become
id in the mud of ultra-militarism like Cleaver.
Key is the happy medium between the two.

ong live the DEACON DEFENSE PARTY
And All Revolutionaries !!!

Best copy
available

Sam Berry
A soldier in the PEOPLES Revolutionary
Army

APPENDIX

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.,
aka Deacons for Defense and Justice,
Inc.

The Articles of Incorporation of the Deacons of Defense and Justice (DDJ) as on file with the Secretary of State, for the State of Louisiana, reflects that the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc., is a Louisiana corporation domiciled at Jonesboro, Louisiana. The location and business office address of its registered office shall be Amos Service Station (rear), Beach Spring Road, Drawer B., Jonesboro, Louisiana.

"This corporation is organized for the following purposes and to carry on the following purposes:

"To instruct, train, teach and educate Citizens of the United States and especially minority groups in the fundamental principles of the republican form of government and our democratic way of life; to instruct, teach, train and educate said persons in the provisions of the constitution and laws of the United States and the State of Louisiana, as well as the constitution and laws of any other state wherein this corporation may operate; to instruct, teach train and educate said persons in the use, value, and purpose of the ballot and the right to vote; to instruct, teach, train and educate said persons as to the duties and responsibilities of good citizenship relative to the obligation and duties of the community to the citizen: to further instruct, teach, train and educate said persons in the value of economic security and in the effective use of their spending power; to inspire in said persons a sense of responsibility and to develop leadership. This corporation has for its further purpose, and is dedicated to, the defense of the civil rights, property rights and personal rights of said people and will defend said rights by any and all honorable and legal means to the end that justice may be obtained. This corporation may establish chapters and conduct its business at any place in this State and elsewhere as permitted by law."

*This characterization of the
DDJ was received with
Chicago LHM so letter dated 1/30/67.
gwr*

157-1008-79

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>BN</i>	FILED <i>BN</i>
MAR 18 1968	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

gwr

9/18/67

Date received 8/29/67	Received from (name or symbol number) FOIA(b) (7) - (D)	Received by SA JOHN J. GROGAN
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Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks)

☐ in person ☒ by telephone ☐ by mail ☐ orally ☐ recording device ☐ written by Informant

If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent:

Date of Report

Dictated 8/30/67 to JOANNE KRANKOSKI

9/1/67

Date(s) of activity

Transcribed _____

Authenticated
by Informant _____

8/29/67

Brief description of activity or material

Information concerning article from TIM

CONWAY to be submitted to newspapers.

File where original is located if not attached

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

Remarks: COPIES:

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

100-24094 CONWAY, TIM
157-2280 THOMAS, JAMES
100-23331 SNCC
100-19055 CIG
157-1008 DEACONS OF DEFENSE & JUSTICE

JJG:lr
W(6)

Block Stamp

157-1008-78

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED _____	FILED _____
SEP 18 1967	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

Baltimore, Maryland

August 29, 1967

JAMES THOMAS said that he had talked with TIM CONWAY on 8/28/67 and CONWAY wanted to know if he had sent the article about the four plants to be burned down in the 4th District, to the newspapers. THOMAS said he had not because CONWAY had said that he wanted it sent in unsigned and THOMAS did not feel the papers would do anything without having some signature or authorization. CONWAY then told THOMAS to send in the article and sign it, SNCC, CIG and Deacons. THOMAS intends to comply with CONWAY's insistence and give this to the papers as coming from the three-named organizations.

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

DATE:

4/20/67

FROM : SA

STEPHEN S. TRAVIS

☐ CI ☐ SI ☐ R (Prob)

☒ PCI ☐ PSI ☐ R

SUBJECT:

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

Dates of Contact

4/17/67

Titles and File #s on which contacted

Deacons for Defense

157-1008

Purpose and results of contact

☐ NEGATIVE

☒ POSITIVE

☐ STATISTIC

PCI advised he could locate no Deacons for Defense organization in Baltimore. He advised that TIM CONWAY was a militant Negro leader, but that he as yet has not formed a Deacons for Defense League in the Baltimore area. PCI said he will not further attempt to locate a Deacons for Defense Club, unless directed by the writer.

☒ Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.

Rating

Good

Coverage

Previously Reported

157-1008-77

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 21 1967	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

1 - FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

1 - BA 157-1008

SST:bag

(2)

Date received <u>2-28-67</u>	Received from (name or symbol number) <u>FOIA(b) (7) - (D)</u>	Received by <u>SA Robert C. Norton</u>
Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in person <input type="checkbox"/> by telephone <input type="checkbox"/> by mail <input type="checkbox"/> orally <input type="checkbox"/> recording device <input type="checkbox"/> written by Informant		
If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent: <u>Date</u> Dictated _____ to _____ Transcribed _____ Authenticated by Informant _____		Date of Report <u>2-26-67</u> Date(s) of activity <u>2-26-67</u>
Brief description of activity or material <u>Spartacist meeting</u>		File where original is located if not attached <u>FOIA(b) (7) - (D)</u>

Remarks:

2-CHICAGO (ROBERT DEITZ) RM
(SPARTACIST)

2-NEW YORK (SPARTACIST) RM
(JAMES ROBERTSON)

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

BALTIMORE

100-23613 SPARTACIST

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

100-22826 NEBS

100-12412 ROBERT LEE

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

100-21948 DAVID COHEN

100-19055 CIG

157-1008 THE DEACONS OF DEFENSE &
JUSTICE, INC.

RCN:ald
(18)

Block Stamp

157-1008-76

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED _____	FILED _____
MAR 22 1967	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

Sunday Feb. 26 1967
Spartacist Meeting Baltimore Md.

2:00 PM. 2-26-1967 -

FOIA b 7 - D

Present were the following.

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b (7) - D

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b (7) - D

FOIA b (7) - D

FOIA b (7) - D

FOIA b (7) - D

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

a letter from Frank Duce was read by [redacted] FOIA b 7 - D. Duce in his letter stated he was under investigation by intelligence and the C. I. A. Duce stated he had been questioned and took the 5th on each question he was asked. Duce's letter also stated the C. I. A. was probably aware of his activities of — some time ago in (Argentina)?

[redacted] FOIA b 7 - D spoke on the campaign — for himself as Mayor of Balto; and [redacted] FOIA b 7 - D running for City Council. And stated the campaign must be kept secret until April 1st.

A letter from Jim Ralston, going [redacted] FOIA b 7 - D and [redacted] FOIA b 7 - D assurance the Balto local would receive P. B. minutes. The two [redacted] FOIA b 7 - D and [redacted] FOIA b 7 - D still have plans to be expelled so they can have a real showdown with the entire Spartacist organization.

[redacted] FOIA b 7 - D is still pushing for a Duce for defence. Under orders from [redacted] FOIA b 7 - D

[redacted] FOIA b 7 - D states it seems hopeless. [redacted] FOIA b 7 - D is trying to get a speaker from New York to appear in Balto. March 17th 67.

[redacted] FOIA b 7 - D

Date received 2/11/67	Received from (name or symbol number) FOIA b 7 - D	Received by SA MAURICE D. DU BOIS
Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in person <input type="checkbox"/> by telephone <input type="checkbox"/> by mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> orally <input type="checkbox"/> recording device <input type="checkbox"/> written by Informant		
If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent: Dictated <u>3/3/67</u> to <u>DDT</u> Transcribed <u>3/10/67</u> Authenticated by Informant _____		Date of Report Date(s) of activity 2/11/67
Brief description of activity or material Details of meeting of TIM CONWAY. Re Deacons for Defense and Justice		File where original is located if not attached FOIA b 7 - D

Remarks: **COPIES:**

FOIA b 7 - D
100-24094 CONWAY, TIM
157-1008 DEACONS OF DEFENSE & JUSTICE
FOIA b 7 - D
100-19055 CIVIC INTEREST GROUP
100-16630 CORE
MDD:ls
(6)

Block Stamp

SEARCHED	SERIALIZED
MAR 1 1967	
FBI - BALTIMORE	
157-1008-75	

Baltimore, Maryland
2/11/67

On 2/11/67, at approximately 2:00 p.m., [FOIA b 7 - D] was observed to meet TIM CONWAY at 2338 Pennsylvania Avenue. CONWAY is a colored, male, about 25-28 years of age, 5'8", 155 lbs., medium brown complexion, peculiarities, has a heavy moustache. He was overheard to say that he works for Schmidts Bakery, but is in danger of being fired from that position. CONWAY told [FOIA b 7 - D] that he had 206 workers of the bakery who are members of the CIG.

[FOIA b 7 - D] made inquiry regarding the Deacons for Defense and Justice, where upon CONWAY told [FOIA b 7 - D] that "he didn't need Deacons for Defense, as he believed in meeting force with force". CONWAY also stated that he believed that CORE had sold the Negroes down the river. He also claimed that Police Commissioner GELSTON had offered to help him in the past. CONWAY was discussing the need for meetings and the publicity for the CIG group and stated that they would meet again next Monday at 7:30 p.m., but that there would not be any Deacons for Defense at the meeting or in Baltimore so far as he knew. CONWAY did, however, mention the desirability of arming oneself.

Date received <i>1-16-67</i>	Received from (name or symbol number) <div>FOIA b 7 - D</div>	Received by <i>SA Robert C. Norton</i>
Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in person <input type="checkbox"/> by telephone <input type="checkbox"/> by mail <input type="checkbox"/> orally <input type="checkbox"/> recording device <input type="checkbox"/> written by Informant		
If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent: Date _____ Dictated _____ to _____ Transcribed _____ Authenticated by Informant _____		Date of Report <i>1-15-67</i> Date(s) of activity <i>1-15-67</i>
Brief description of activity or material <i>Spartacist meeting</i>		File where original is located if not attached <div>FOIA b 7 - D</div>

Remarks:

- 5- NEW YORK (SPARTACIST) RM
(JIM ROBERTSON)
(AL SPANFELNER)
(LYNN MARCUS)
(CAROL MARCUS)
- 1- CHICAGO (ROBERT DEITZ) RM
BALTIMORE

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

FOIA b 7 - D

100-19055 CIVIC INTEREST GROUP
157-1008 THE DEACONS OF DEFENSE &
JUSTICE, INC.
100-23613 SPARTACIST
RCN:ald
(15)

Block Stamp

157-1008-74

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FEB 1 1967	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

January 15 1969
Balto. Md.
Spartacist Meeting

2:00 P.M.

FOIA b 7 - D

Present were the following members.

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

suggested the Balto. group should have a secret meeting real soon with Sam and Carol Marcus. Here in Balto. and the group should go to N.Y. for a special visit soon with - other people - and to drop in on Jim Robertson & Spanfelter during the visit. FOIA b 7 - D gone FOIA b 7 - D order to push C.I.B. hard - to form a defense for defense in Balto.

Another letter received from Frank Duce in Chicago - still wants to return to Balto. and still trying to obtain a discharge from the arm. - Call N. R. slave labor. and the M.P.'s the goon squad.

FOIA b 7 - D

10

Date received 1-30-67	Received from (name or symbol number) FOIA b 7 - D	Received by SD Robert Deitz
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Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks)

☒ in person ☐ by telephone ☐ by mail ☐ orally ☐ recording device ☒ written by Informant

If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent:

Date

Dictated _____ to _____

Transcribed _____

Authenticated
by Informant _____

Date of Report

1-29-67

Date(s) of activity

1-29-67

Brief description of activity or material

Spartacist Meeting

File where original is located if not attached

FOIA b 7 - D

Remarks:

-CHICAGO (ROBERT DEITZ) RM

-WFO (VIDEM) RM

-DETROIT (TOM SETTLE) RM
(SPARTACIST)

-NEW YORK (SPARTACIST) RM
(LYNN MARCUS)
(CAROL MARCUS)
(DOUG HAINLINE)
(LON DAVIS)

BALTIMORE

FOIA b 7 - D

100-23613 SPARTACIST

FOIA b 7 - D

157-1008 THE DEACONS OF DEFENSE & JUSTICE, INC.
100-24094 TIM CONWAY
100-NEW DENO
100-20768 LOUIS E. WILLIAMS
100-23561 VIDEM
100-23559 WALTER LIVELY
100-19055 CIVIC INTEREST GROUP

RCN:ald
(23)

Block Stamp

157-1008-73

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FEB 1 1967	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

Sunday January 29 1967
Spartacist Meeting
Baltimore Maryland

6:00 P.M.

FOIA b 7 - D

Present were the following members

Arrived late.

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

A report by [redacted] who has joined C.I.G.
— C.I.G. is the group in Baltimore who is now
organizing — a group — as the decon for defence.
[redacted] under orders from [redacted] is to push
the group to form a gun club. — Join the American
gun club. — [redacted] stated in this way the group
will be able to obtain free practice ammunition from
the Government. And be able to use police firing
ranges And even receive instructions from the
police. — This Organization is to be highly ^{secretive} ~~secretive~~
at this time. — So far the two main colored men
behind the decon are Tom Conner and a fellow
by the name of — Dino [redacted] instructed [redacted]
to push the group to start buying weapons at once
and if they join the American gun club — ~~that~~
they can buy guns wholesale. — [redacted]
volunteered to run off any leaflets the Decon want
memoraphed.

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

[redacted] is to speak to a group of about twenty
boys [redacted] has been working with for
a couple of years. — [redacted] has been teaching
the boys to become Marxist [redacted] stated.
the meeting will be held at [redacted] home
8:00 P.M. Wednesday Feb. 1st 1967 — [redacted]

Tom Settle is having an operation at present but
expects to be in Balto. for a visit Feb 28th.

Sam and Carol Marcus will visit Balto Spartacist in a
few days. Doug Harrison — and Son Davis also to visit.

W. H. H. from Dece in Chicago, received Dece still
being forward to returning to Balto. — Page 2.

[redacted] gave an analyst of the China situation stating - China is now in a state of civil war. and stated Mayo will be assassinated within three months -

[redacted] also gave an analyst of the latest Spartacist paper -

[redacted] suggested [redacted] should join a group - Called the Modis. Who [redacted] stated were Vietnam authors and are well educated people.

[redacted] Stated Monday and Tuesday - Jan 30 + 31 - The Vietnam Committee of the Quakers are meeting in Washington - Cost \$15.00 to register. [redacted] stated the \$15.00 figure was a mistake the fee would be \$5.00.

[redacted] suggested [redacted] should send in a report to H.Q. for the record as to what Bolto. is doing.

Walter Lindy also mentioned in connection with the Deconic.

[redacted]

Date received 2-13-67	Received from (name or symbol number) FOIA b (7) - D	Received By SA Robert L. Norton
Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in person <input type="checkbox"/> by telephone <input type="checkbox"/> by mail <input type="checkbox"/> orally <input type="checkbox"/> recording device <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> written by Informant		
If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent: Dictated _____ to _____ Transcribed _____ Authenticated by Informant _____		Date of Report 2-12-67 Date(s) of activity 2-12-67
Brief description of activity or material Spartacist meeting		File where original is located if not attached FOIA b (7) - D

Remarks:

1-NEW YORK (SPARTACIST) RM

BALTIMORE

FOIA b (7) - (D)

100-23613 SPARTACIST

FOIA b (7) - (D)

157-1601 INTERSTATE KLANS
100-19937 KEITH KERN
100-22826 NEBS
100-12412 ROBERT LEE
100-23914 TOM BOWERS
100-23033 SDS
100-19055 CIG
100-24094 TIM CONWAY
157-1008 THE DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.

RCN:ald
(17)

Block Stamp

157-1008-72

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FEB 13 1967	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

Sunday February 12 1967
Baltimore Md.

Spartacist Meeting

2:00 PM.

FOIA b 17 - D

Present were the following members

FOIA b 17 - D

Meeting Called to order by

FOIA b 17 - D

FOIA b 17 - D

FOIA b 17 - D to give an account of the - Klan visit to the new Era Bookshop, 408 Park Ave. Phone 539-9645.

FOIA b 17 - D stated he was told by Keith Kern that during the night of Feb. 11th 1967 - The Klan had ~~been~~ broken a plate glass window by throwing a brick through it - at the new era and had placed stickers all over the place. - FOIA b 17 - D stated he had gone to the book shop and seen the broken glass and stickers. The stickers read. - you are being watched by the Knights of the K.K.K. Bob Lee the New Era Manager stated the window glass cost \$12.50 - Stickers were also put on Keith Kern's place, and on a building across the street from Tom Sawyer's place. - FOIA b 17 - D suggested the Spartacist should offer to help in removing and also send out a press release or Bob Lee is rendering one and today.

FOIA b 17 - D

FOIA b 17 - D were asked to give a report on S.D.S. FOIA b 17 - D stated that at this time S.D.S. is completely dead.

FOIA b 17 - D

FOIA b 17 - D gave a report on - The United Auto Workers Union - Stated they were turning to the left and were splitting from the A.F. of L. C.I.O. That the group should start some leaflets to encourage them.

FOIA b 17 - D

FOIA b 17 - D gave a report on C.I.G. stating at this point I was not likely - that a Decree for defence would come into existence in Baltimore. No one was serious enough. And as he blamed the Catholic Church was the thing standing in the way, a few priests have been talking to them. And Tim Conway and others believed FOIA b 17 - D were taking orders from FOIA b 17 - D denied this.

FOIA b 17 - D

FOIA b 17 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

stated the campaign - coming up.

FOIA b 7 - D

for [redacted] would cost \$2000.00 minimum and for \$3000.00 they could have a hang up campaign.

FOIA b 7 - D

for Mayor of Balto. and [redacted] for City Council of the 4th district. [redacted] stated this was to be kept secret until later so the city could not pass new laws to stop them.

FOIA b 7 - D

suggested waiting a while before starting a fund raising campaign. which will be national, etc.

FOIA b 7 - D

[redacted] has some place to speak lined up for most every day for the next two weeks. and plans to bring outside speakers to Balto soon. [redacted] promised to try to find a pistol for [redacted]

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

Date received <i>1/24/67</i>	Received from (name or symbol number) <i>St. George Harrison Inspectional Services</i>	Received by <i>S.A. Francis J. Walsh jr</i>
Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks) <i>Balto Md P.D.</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in person <input type="checkbox"/> by telephone <input type="checkbox"/> by mail <input type="checkbox"/> orally <input type="checkbox"/> recording device <input type="checkbox"/> written by Informant		
If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent: Date _____ Dictated _____ to _____ Transcribed _____ Authenticated by Informant _____		Date of Report <i>1/23/67</i> Date(s) of activity <i>1/23/67</i>
Brief description of activity or material <i>Report of Sgt Mc Neal Brockington to Major Vincent P. Davis, Balto P.D. 1/23/67 reflecting organizing plans for a Balto Chapter of the Deacons for Defense & Justice.</i>		File where original is located if not attached <i>157-1008</i>

St. Harrison advised that Vernon Conway aka "Tim" resides at 2134 Division St. Balto Md. He is a Negro, male, born FOIA b 6 5'7", 160 lbs, black hair, brown eyes. He was arrested 5/3/66 for Disorderly Conduct also has 4 arrests for assault on his wife and 1 arrest for receiving stolen goods.

COPIES:
157-1008 DEACONS FOR DEFENSE & JUSTICE
157- CONWAY, VERNON (aka "TIM")
157- PRETTYMAN, JAMES

1- BH (DEACONS FOR DEFENSE) RM
Lowndes County, Ala.

*FTJW:ls
(4)*

Block Stamp

<i>157-1008-71</i>	
SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED <i>AM</i>	FILED <i>AM</i>
JAN 25 1967	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

January 23, 1967

From : Sergeant McNeal Brockington
To : Major Vincent D. Gavin
Subject : A C.I.G. (Civic Interest Group) Meeting

Relative to the above subject, a confidential source working in close cooperation with this office reports that at about 1:30 P.M. this date, he attended a C.I.G. meeting at the office of C.I.G., 2338 Pa. Ave.

The source states that when he entered the premises, he observed eight males, seven Colored Males and one White Male, later identified as John, a V.I.S.T.A. worker from Buffalo State University. Two of the C/Males were recognized as Vernon Conway and James Prettyman, Co-chairmen of the Civic Interest Group. It also appeared as though a meeting had just ended and Conway asked for the attention of those present and began a discussion concerning " Organizing A Deacons For Defense. He (Conway) explained " that this was a necessary step for Black people to take since no one else is really going to protect us, we will have to protect ourselves." Conway, went on to say that this organization must be made up of only Black people. At this point, "Dino" (Prettyman) spoke out " yea that means you too John!, you White people want to be in on everything, but you won't get in on this. I am all for a Deacons For Defense or a Black revolution if that's what it takes to get " Whitey " off my back. John (the V.I.S.T.A. worker) jumped to his feet and said thats what the uneducated Whites want, they would probably invite violence, that way they would have a reason to strike out at you, they would then say we are only protecting ourselves. Prettyman, answered, " well you had better tell them to get ready to protect themselves because we don't intend to take anymore shit from you." Prettyman, went on to say that "you (referring to the V.I.S.T.A. worker) have been around about a month or so and you think you are an authority on the Black ghetto, but you ain't, you don't know what its all about. A minute ago, you were talking about uneducated people wanting a revolution, well those educated and rich ones might want to see one, at least that's what you might believe, but I don't believe that none of them want to die and if we go some of you are going too. We are dying anyway, look at Black people dying in Georgia, Mississippi and Alabama, we might as well take some of you with us." Conway interrupted and said when you just use the word Deacons, white people get shook up. I think the sooner we get organized the better things will be. He (Conway) took from his desk a white sheet of paper and asked those present, all except John, to sign their name and address, if they wish to be considered as candidate members in the Deacons For Defense Of Justice.

FOIA b 7 - D

and if possible " bring a friend if he's dedicated to protecting his Black people."

- Continued -

Continuation

After the meeting was concluded, an informal discussion took place, primarily between the V I S T A worker and Prettyman. The V I S T A worker contended that the idea of a Deacons For Defense is fine, however, he doesn't feel that Whites should be included. Prettyman contended that the matter of Whites participating is out. He (Prettyman) stated that the Deacons main function will be that of protecting Black people, so that's it.

FOIA b 7 - D

that if there was a delay in getting organized it would be due to some delay in correspondence with the Deacons For Defense in Lowndes County, Alabama. He (Conway) stated that he has written to the Deacons and is trying to get one of them at the first organizational meeting.

Respectfully,

Sgt McNeal Brockington
Sgt McNeal Brockington

*Source - Known reliable
Information - Confirmed
Ft. H.*

Date received <i>1/24/67</i>	Received from (name or symbol number) <i>St. George Harrison</i> <i>Suspecting Deacons</i>	Received by <i>St. Francis J. Walcott</i> <i>jr</i>
Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks) <i>By the first P.D.</i>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in person	<input type="checkbox"/> by telephone	<input type="checkbox"/> by mail
<input type="checkbox"/> orally	<input type="checkbox"/> recording device	<input type="checkbox"/> written by Informant

If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent:

Date

Dictated _____ to _____

Transcribed _____

Authenticated
by Informant _____

Date of Report

1/27/67

Date(s) of activity

1/23/67

Brief description of activity or material

Report of Sgt. McNeil Brockington to Major
Vernon D. Deakin, Balto P.D. 1/23/67

File where original is located if not attached

157-1008

Remarks:

Excerpt of the Deacons for Defense justice.

St. Harrison advised that Vernon Conway aka "Tim"
resides at 2134 Division St. Balto and that he is a Negro
male, born FOIA b. 6 *5'1", 160 lbs, black hair, brown eyes.*

He was arrested 7/5/66 for Disorderly Conduct also has 4
arrests for assault on his wife and 1 arrest for receiving
stolen goods

COPIES:

157-1008 DEACONS FOR DEFENSE & JUSTICE

157- CONWAY, VERNON (aka "TIM")

157- PRETTYMAN, JAMES

1- BH (DEACONS FOR DEFENSE) RM
Lownes County, Ala.

FJW:ls
(4)

Block Stamp

157-1008-70

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JAN 25 1967	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

January 23, 1967

From : Sergeant McNeal Brockington
To : Major Vincent D. Gavin
Subject : A C.I.G. (Civic Interest Group) Meeting

Relative to the above subject, a confidential source working in close cooperation with this office reports that at about 1:30 P.M. this date, he attended a C.I.G. meeting at the office of C.I.G., 2338 Pa. Ave.

The source states that when he entered the premises, he observed eight males, seven Colored Males and one White Male, later identified as John, a V.I.S.T.A. worker from Buffalo State University. Two of the C/Males were recognized as Vernon Conway and James Prettyman, Co-chairmen of the Civic Interest Group. It also appeared as though a meeting had just ended and Conway asked for the attention of those present and began a discussion concerning "Organizing A Deacons For Defense. He (Conway) explained " that this was a necessary step for Black people to take since no one else is really going to protect us, we will have to protect ourselves." Conway, went on to say that this organization must be made up of only Black people. At this point, "Dino" (Prettyman) spoke out " yea that means you too John., you White people want to be in on everything, but you won't get in on this. I am all for a Deacons For Defense or a Black revolution if that's what it takes to get " Whitey " off my back. John (the V.I.S.T.A. worker) jumped to his feet and said thats what the uneducated Whites want, they would probably invite violence, that way they would have a reason to strike out at you, they would then say we are only protecting ourselves. Prettyman, answered, " well you had better tell them to get ready to protect themselves because we don't intend to take anymore shit from you." Prettyman, went on to say that "you (referring to the V.I.S.T.A. worker) have been around about a month or so and you think you are an authority on the Black ghetto, but you ain't, you don't know what its all about. A minute ago, you were talking about uneducated people wanting a revolution. Well those educated and rich ones might want to see one, at least that's what you might believe, but I don't believe that none of them want to die and if we go some of you are going too. We are dying anyway, look at Black people dying in Georgia, Mississippi and Alabama, we might as well take some of you with us." Conway interrupted and said when you just use the word Deacons, white people get shook up. I think the sooner we get organized the better things will be. He (Conway) took from his desk a white sheet of paper and asked those present, all except John, to sign their name and address, if they wish to be considered as candidate members in the Deacons For Defense Of Justice.

FOIA(b) 7 - D

and if possible " bring a friend if he's dedicated to protecting his Black people."

- Continued -

Continuation.....

After the meeting was concluded, an informal discussion took place, primarily between the V.I.S.T.A. worker and Prettyman. The V.I.S.T.A. worker contended that the idea of a Deacons For Defense is fine, however, he doesn't feel that Whites should be excluded. Prettyman contended that the matter of Whites participating is out. He (Prettyman) stated that the Deacons main function will be that of protecting Black people, so that's it.

FOIA(b)(7) - D

that if there was a delay in getting organized it would be due to some delay in correspondence with the Deacons For Defense in Lowndes County, Alabama. He (Conway) stated that he has written to the Deacons and is trying to get one of them at the first organizational meeting.

Respectfully,

Sgt. McNeal Brockington

Sgt. McNeal Brockington

*Source - Known reliable
Information - Confirmed
J.H.*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC **BALTIMORE** FOIA b 7 - D

FROM : SA **STEPHEN S. TRAVIS**

SUBJECT : FOIA b 7 - D

DATE **2/15/67**

☐ CI ☐ SI ☐ R (Prob)
☒ PCI ☐ PSI ☐ R
☐

Dates of Contact

2/10/67

Titles and File #s on which contacted

157-1008

Purpose and results of contact

☐ NEGATIVE
☒ POSITIVE
☐ STATISTIC

The above PCI was contacted and requested to attempt to join the "Deacons for Defense" group, being formed in Baltimore, through "Civic Interest Group" (CIG) Headquarters located at 2338 Pennsylvania Ave., Baltimore. PCI stated he would attempt to join above organization and inform the writer of its stage of organization and plans, if any.

The PCI was requested and agreed to contact the writer by phone only, in the event he obtained information of value or succeeded in penetrating the "Deacons for Defense".

PCI had no other pertinent information to relate to the writer.

☒ Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.

Rating

Good

Coverage

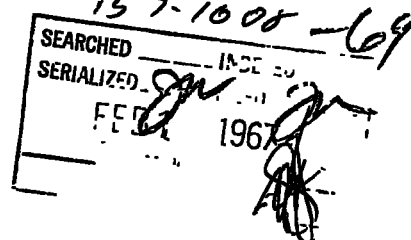
Previously reported

1 - FOIA b 7 - D

1 - **157-1008**

SST/DBB

(2)



Date received 1-10-67	Received from (name or symbol number) FOIA b 7 - D	Received by SA Robert J. Martin
Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in person <input type="checkbox"/> by telephone <input type="checkbox"/> by mail <input type="checkbox"/> orally <input type="checkbox"/> recording device <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> written by Informant		
If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent: Date _____ Dictated _____ to _____ Transcribed _____ Authenticated by Informant _____		Date of Report 1-9-67 Date(s) of activity 1-9-67
Brief description of activity or material Deacons for Defense		File where original is located if not attached FOIA b 7 - D

Remarks:

1 NEW ORLEANS (THE DEACONS OF DEFENSE & JUSTICE, INC.) RM

BALTIMORE

FOIA b 7 - D

100-23613 SPARTACIST

FOIA b 7 - D

100-19055 CIG

FOIA b 7 - D

157-1008 DEACONS FOR DEFENSE & JUSTICE, INC.

RCN:ald
(9)

Block Stamp

157-1008-60

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED _____	FILED _____
JAN 12 1967	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

Monday Jan., 9 1967
Balto. Md.

During the day - Both [redacted] and [redacted] stated to [redacted] at different times that the negro organization C.I.O. were forming a Deacons for Defence in Baltimore. [redacted] is the only white member. [redacted] to try and join. [redacted] stated - this was highly secret at present. It is internal information not to be passed on to any other group. [redacted] side - No leafletting today.

[redacted]
FOIA b 7 - D

Date received 9/6/66	Received from (name or symbol number) Officer Charles L. Lantry Intelligence Unit, Balto County	Received by SA Francis J. Walsh
Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in person <input type="checkbox"/> by telephone <input type="checkbox"/> by mail <input type="checkbox"/> orally <input type="checkbox"/> recording device <input type="checkbox"/> written by Informant		
If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent: Dictated _____ to _____ Transcribed _____ Authenticated by Informant _____		Date of Report 7/3/66 Date(s) of activity 7/3/66
Brief description of activity or material Demonstration type activities during 7/3/66 session of CORE Convention		File where original is located if not attached 100-16630

Remarks: COPIES:

100-16630 CORE
100-20684 NATIONAL STATES RIGHTS PARTY
157-987 CARROLL, JOSEPH JOHN
157-1500 ROBUSTO, ROBERT
157-1429 CATHOLIC ANTI-COMMUNIST COMMITTEE
157-876 WHITE CITIZENS COUNCIL
157-DEAD LUTHARDT, CHARLES
100-16471 NOI
157-1274 NAIMASTER, VERNON J.
157-1039 MURPHY, ROBERT
157-1111 SHELTON, ROBERT
157-1446 UKA - MD.
157-1463 BALTO. COUNTY
157-1653 LYNCH, CHARLES CONLEY (REV)
157-30 STONER, JESSE B.
157-1008 DEACONS OF DEFENSE & JUSTICE

FJW:ls
(16)

Block Stamp

157-1008-67

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 8 1966	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

BALTIMORE COUNTY POLICE BUREAU

July 3, 1966

DATE

TO: Inspector E. F. Adams

FROM: Officer Charles W. Tenney

SUBJECT: Confidential Information

Sir:

On July 3, 1966 approximately 2:30 P.M. the undersigned was contacted by Lieutenant Hasson, Baltimore City Police Department, at this time the Lieutenant advised that his department felt they might have some trouble from N.S.R.P. at the Knox Presbyterian Church, 1307 Eutaw Place, Baltimore City, and requested the undersigned to come to the Intelligence Office, Baltimore City.

Prior to leaving for Baltimore City, I contacted you and arrangements were made to cover the Deacons and C.O.R.E. car radio units on Channels 5-7-11-17, Citizen's band radio. Sergeant Morgan, Baltimore County Auxiliary Police, furnished the radio equipment and men for this detail from 7:00 P.M. to 12:00 Midnight, July 2, 1966.

Upon arriving at C.O.R.E. Convention, 1307 Eutaw Place, Baltimore City, at 7:30 P.M. it was observed that a small group of C.O.R.E. members were standing outside the Knox Presbyterian Church. At 7:45 P.M. the Church doors were opened and the group started to go inside.

At 8:00 P.M. Joseph John Carroll, leader of N.S.R.P., arrived with 19 teenagers with sign that read, Who needs niggers, etc. Carroll started his march on the grass strip in front of the Church as soon as his group arrived. Carroll and his group would shout, "Down with niggers!, Kill niggers!, Who needs niggers!", etc. This caused some remarks to be made by the Negro bystanders.

Later Robert Robusto, W/M, Catholic Anti-Communist Committee, arrived with one white female and one white male from the White Citizens Council, and they also marched with Charles Luthardt in front of the Knox Presbyterian Church. During this time Luthardt shouted, "I am coming in", and ran towards the main entrance of the Church. Upon arriving on the second step of the Church, Luthardt stopped and returned to the street making the remark, "That shook up those niggers".

Later in the evening Robusto, Luthardt, and the two members from the White Citizens Council tried to enter the Church again. Then Lincoln O. Lynch came out and advised the group - "You are welcome to come in but you are not bringing that flag or signs into the Church". The group returned to their picket lines.

Luthardt stated he wanted to speak at the Convention and tell the Negro group the truth, not a one-sided story like the one they were hearing from Lynch. At this point two automobiles and a V.W. Bus arrived with members and honor guard from the Black Muslim. As soon as the vehicles stopped the passengers got off the bus and went inside the Church and took up their posts at all exits and on the stage behind the speaker.

The main point in the speech given by the leader of the Muslim's was, "the black man wants to do everything the white man does. He no longer wants to be the black man he is".

Last to arrive were three vehicles containing colored females dressed in white. These subjects also entered the Church with great speed.

BALTIMORE COUNTY POLICE BUREAU

July 3, 1966

DATE

TO:

FROM:

SUBJECT: Confidential Information (continued)

Page -2-

Two hundred feet of 16 mm movie film was taken by the undersigned.

The matter was handled very well by Colonel Frank J. Battaglia and his men. There was no trouble or arrest.

During the above mentioned demonstration, Vernon J. Naimaster was observed in the crowd by the undersigned. Naimaster was standing under one of the large trees to the left of the main entrance to the Church. He was not involved in any of the action but he was carrying a camera, believed to be size 620. With him was Robert Murphy alleged member of N.S.R.P. and K.B.I., working out of Robert Shelton's office of the U.N.K., Inc.

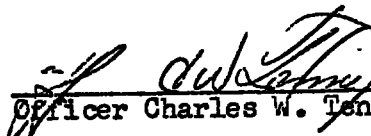
The undersigned spoke with Mr. Naimaster for approximately one-half hour. During this time Mr. Naimaster told me that he nor none of his members were planning to march, demonstrate, etc., during the C.O.R.E. Convention in Baltimore City because, according to Naimaster, the nigger has control of the city and it has been given to them by the city officers; the same as Jews have control in the city. Mr. Naimaster further stated if the niggers come into the county (meaning Baltimore County - Naimaster lives in the County) or South Baltimore, the Klan will take steps to put and keep them out.

I asked Mr. Naimaster if he or any of the Klavern Heads (E.C.'s) are planning to hold any rallies or marches in the County and Mr. Naimaster replied, there will be rallies held soon in the Baltimore area but at this time I do not want to say when or where, but they will be near Baltimore City. I will contact you (meaning the undersigned) or your department in advance and advise the time, date and location of any marches or rallies, to be held in the County. I have talked with Mr. Naimaster many times and found him to be truthful as far as giving the police advance notice of rallies, etc. (this also for his own protection).

Later in the evening I spoke with Ernest Thomas and during the conversation I found Thomas to be cool and calm, up till Joe Carroll passed him and shouted, "who needs niggers!" This disturbed Thomas very much. Seeing this happen two colored male members from the C.O.R.E. Convention came over to Thomas and talked him out of, as Thomas put it, "Stomping him into the ground". Thomas can become very dangerous and his own people say that he will kill. Thomas believes very much in Black Power and in the Deacons and would like to get a group of Deacons started in the Baltimore area.

According to Lieutenant Hasson, Carroll is planning street rallies and hall meetings in the Dundalk area very soon and will be backing subjects by the names of Fruch and Leono for public office. Also, Stones and Connie Lynch of N.S.R.P. are to be in the Baltimore area July 14, 15, and 16 for N.S.R.P. meeting and rallies. The meeting may be held at the Holiday Inn, Towson. A check will be made into this and the information forwarded to your office.

Respectfully submitted,


Officer Charles W. Tenney

SAC, CHICAGO (157-1419)

11/22/66

SAC, BALTIMORE (157-1847)

WILLARD DIXON
RE

ReBAairtel 11/22/66.

Enclosed herewith for Chicago are two Polaroid prints of the photograph of WILLARD DONOVAN DIXON, JR. which appears on the Baltimore Xerox copy of DIXON's application for Bureau employment dated 7/25/63. These prints are being furnished inasmuch as the Xerox copy of applicant furnished by referenced airtel does not reflect a clear picture of DIXON.

For information, Baltimore file 67-19188 reflects that WILLARD DONOVAN DIXON was investigated as a BUAP - CLERK in August and September, 1963. No unfavorable information was developed concerning DIXON himself

FOIA(b) (7) - (C)
FOIA(b) (6)

2 - Chicago (157-1419)(Enc.2)
(REGISTERED MAIL)
(2) - Baltimore (1 - 157-1847)
(1 - 157-1008 DEACONS)

FJW:df1
(4)

JA

Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

SAC

FOIA b 7 - D

9-8-66

SA WILLIAM D. O'BRIEN

FOIA b 7 - D

It is felt that this PCI can logically be approached re the DDJ. He was contacted August 22, 1966 and advised that he had no knowledge concerning the DDJ, but would be alert for same.

PCI was instructed to attempt to gather information on Pennsylvania Avenue, where an opportunity might present itself to learn of DDJ recruiting.

FOIA b 7 - D

157-1008 (DDJ)

WDO:wdo

(2)

157-1008-66

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 3 1966	
FBI-BALTIMORE	

SAC, CHICAGO (157-1419)

11/22/66

SAC, BALTIMORE (157-1847)

WILLARD DIXON
RM

ReBAairtel 11/22/66.

Enclosed herewith for Chicago are two Polaroid prints of the photograph of WILLARD DONOVAN DIXON, JR. which appears on the Baltimore Xerox copy of DIXON's application for Bureau employment dated 7/25/63. These prints are being furnished inasmuch as the Xerox copy of applicant furnished by referenced airtel does not reflect a clear picture of DIXON.

For information, Baltimore file 67-19188 reflects that WILLARD DONOVAN DIXON was investigated as a BUAP - CLERK in August and September, 1963. No unfavorable information was developed concerning DIXON himself [REDACTED]

FOIA(b) (7) - (C)
FOIA(b) (6)

- 2 - Chicago (157-1419) (Enc.2)
- (2) - Baltimore (1 - 157-1847)
- (1 - 157-1008 DEACONS)

FJH:df1

(4)

JK

Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

11/22/66

AIRTEL

REGISTERED MAIL

TO: SAC, CHICAGO (157-1419)

FROM: SAC, BALTIMORE (157-1847)

SUBJECT: WILLARD DIXON
RACIAL MATTERS

FOIA(b) (6)

Re Chicago airtel to Baltimore dated November 9, 1966.

FOIA(b) (6)

On November 22, 1966, Mrs. MARY RUGGIERO, Clerk, Local Board 21, Baltimore, Maryland, advised that WILLARD DONOVAN DIXON, Selective Service Number 18-21-45-89, born [REDACTED] is currently classified 1-A. She advised that according to her records, DIXON was last in contact with that Board in October, 1966, when he requested a duplicate Selective Service card. Mrs. RUGGIERO stated that she was unable to furnish any additional information including DIXON's current residence or employment.

The Baltimore Office is directing a letter to Selective Service Headquarters, Baltimore, Maryland, requesting permission to review WILLARD DONOVAN DIXON's Selective Service file; however, in view of the consistent refusal of the Selective Service System in Maryland to permit such review of Selective Service files, it is not anticipated that this request will be granted.

A review of Baltimore files reflects that WILLARD DONOVAN DIXON, [REDACTED] Selective Service Number 18-21-45-89, submitted an application for employment with

- 2 - Chicago (157-1419) (Encls. 1) (REGISTERED AIR MAIL)
- ② - Baltimore (1-157-1847)
(1-157-1008) (Deacons of Defense and Justice)

FJW:dh

(4) *dh*

Searched _____
Serialized TW
Indexed _____
Filed TW

157-1008-64

BA 157-1847

the FBI, dated July 25, 1963. Inasmuch as this individual is identical with WILLARD DONOVAN DIXON, JR., who is a registrant with Local Board 21, a Xerox copy of this application is enclosed for Chicago.

Baltimore will furnish a better representation of WILLARD DONOVAN DIXON, JR.'s photograph as soon as it is processed.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-1008)

DATE: 10/19/66

FROM : SA THOMAS J. REPPE

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.
RM

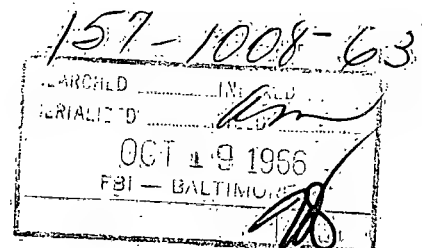
Re memo of Supv. M. E. Garrison dated 8/18/66.

On 10/14/66 [FOIA b 7 - D] was contacted concerning above captioned matter. He advised that he is not a member of any Civil Rights organizations. He has never heard of the organization, Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc. He had no interest in Civil Rights organizations and had no interest in becoming a member of any Civil Rights organizations, including the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc.

1 - 157-1008

1 - [FOIA b 7 - D]

TJR: -



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, BALTIMORE

FOIA b 7 - D

DATE: 10/13/66

FROM : SA MAURICE D. du BOIS

☐ CI ☐ SI ☒ R (Prob)

☐ PCI ☐ PSI ☐ R

SUBJECT:

FOIA b 7 - D

Dates of Contact

10/4/66

Titles and File #s on which contacted

Purpose and results of contact

☒ NEGATIVE

☐ POSITIVE

☐ STATISTIC

This informant telephonically communicated with the writer on this date and stated that everything was quiet and that he had been unable to obtain any information to indicate that the Deacons for Defense and Justice or the RAM organizations are functioning in any way in this area at this time.

☒ Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.

Rating

Good

Coverage

Previously reported.

3 - Baltimore

MDD:rms

(3)

FOIA b 7 - D

(1 - 157-1008)

(1 - 100-23494)

157-1008-62

SEARCHED	SERIALIZED
OCT 12 1966	FBI

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, (157-1008)

DATE: 10/4/66

FROM : SA JOHN J. GROGAN

SUBJECT: Deacon Of Defense And Justice, Inc.
RM

On 9/29/66 [FOIA b 7 - D] advised that he had never heard of the Deacon of Defense or of anyone in the Baltimore area attempting to organize for such a group.

① - 157-1008

1 - [FOIA b 7 - D]

JJG:lel

(2)

ll

157-1008-61

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 5 1966	
FBI - BALTIMORE	



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC **BALTIMORE** FOIA b 7 - DDATE **9/20/66**FROM : SA **MAURICE D. DU BOIS**☐ CI ☐ SI ☐ R (Prob)☐ PCI ☐ PSI ☐ RSUBJECT FOIA b 7 - D**Dates of Contact****9/7/66****Titles and File #s on which contacted****157-1008****157-157 CORE, FILE****Purpose and results of contact**☐ **NEGATIVE**☒ **POSITIVE**☐ **STATISTIC**

**RE: DEANS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
INCORPORATED,
RM - 157-1008**

This informant telephonically advised that SA M. D. DU BOIS that at 10:50 PM on this date that he had made inquiries regarding the above organization and had ascertained that the group had never really started in this area. In his words he stated that the organization had never got off the ground here and that they were not functioning at this time.

**RE: PROSPECTIVE DEMONSTRATION AT
TOMMY TUCKER STORE ON
PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE BY
REPRESENTATIVES OF CORE AND**

☒ Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact

Rating

GOOD

Coverage

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED**1 - each copy above****MDD:slz****(3)**

157-1008-60

SEARCHED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INDEXED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SERIALIZED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FILED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SEP 21 1966 FBI - BALTIMORE	

ABV

OTHER GROUPS, 157-

Informant stated that he had just received word that CORE and its associated groups were going to demonstrate at the Tommy Tucker Store located in the 1700 block Pennsylvania Avenue, beginning at 9.00 AM on 9/8/66.

This information was immediately thereafter furnished telephonically to the duty agent SA T. MALINOWSKI who was requested to inform acting relief supervisor BENNETT and SA F. WALSH.

- 2* -

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO SAC Baltimore (157-1008)

FROM SA Francis J Walsh

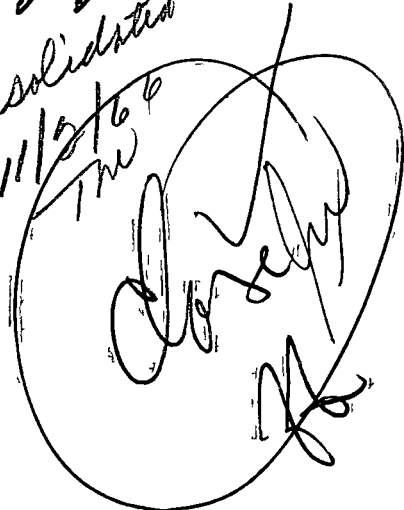
SUBJECT Deacons of Defense and
Justice, Inc
R M

DATE 10/10/66

On 10/6/66 Lt George Hason, Inspectional
Services, ^{Balto PSD} advised that as a result of the article
re captioned group which appeared in Afro-
American 8/13/66, (Re serial 40) an investigation
was conducted by that department and no
information was developed to substantiate the
statements in the article that the Deacons
are organizing in Baltimore

FJW
(1)

Shipped & consolidated
157-1008
11/2/66
TW



157-1008-59

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 26 1966	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

Walsh



5010-108

Buy U S Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO SAC, BALTIMORE (157-1008)

DATE 9/29/66

FROM SA ROBERT C BLOUNT

SUBJECT DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND
JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RM

Rememo Supervisor M E GARRISON 8/18/66

[redacted] FOIA b 7 - D advised
on 8/25/66, he has never heard of such an organization,
however, he will be alert for any information coming to
his attention regarding such an organization

[redacted] FOIA b 7 - D was again contacted on 9/22/66, and
said he has made discreet inquiry and been alert for in-
formation pertaining to the above captioned organization,
however, he has been able to obtain no information whatsoever.
He knows no persons no person belonging to this organization
or trying to recruit members

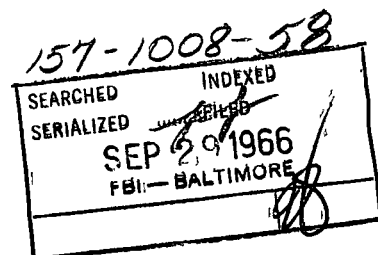
cc

1 -

[redacted] FOIA b 7 - D

elt
RCB elt

(2)



Buy U S Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO SAC, BALTIMORE (157-1008)

DATE 9/29/66

FROM SA ROBERT C BLOUNT

SUBJECT DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND
JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RM

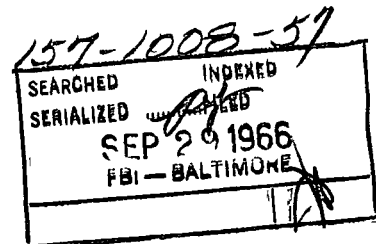
FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

Re memo Supervisor M. E Garrison 8/18/66.

[redacted] FOIA(b) (7) - (D) advised on 8/25/66 he has never heard of captioned organization, however, he will be alert for any information .

On 9/21/66 [redacted] advised he has been unable to obtain any information regarding this organization and knows no persons trying to organize such a group or anyone belonging to this group. He does not feel he will be approached to join since he does not have a reputation for being sympathetic to such organizations

cc [redacted] FOIA b 7 - (D)
RCB rcb



Buy U S Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO SAC (157-1008)

DATE September 9, 1966

FROM SA LOUIS S LEAR

SUBJECT DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND
JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RM

Rememo of SUPVRM E CARRISON dated 8/18/66

On 8/25/66 [FOIA b 7 - D] advised that the captioned organization was unknown to him

This informant is of low mental capacity and he has never held a steady job. There is no indication that he has ever betrayed a confidence with the Bureau and it is possible he would be willing to attempt to infiltrate this organization. This possibility was not explored with him pending specific instructions as to whether or not it is desired that this informant be considered for this assignment.

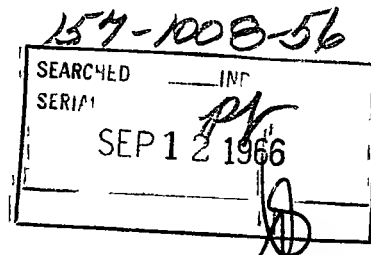
[FOIA b 7 - D]

(1) 157-1008)

(1) [FOIA b 7 - D]

ls1/s

(2)



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO (157-1008)

DATE September 9, 1966

FROM SA LOUIS S LEAR

SUBJECT DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RM

Rememo of Supr M E CARRISON dated 8/18/66

On 8/24/66 FOIA b 7 - D advised that the captioned organization is unknown to him

This informant is young and somewhat ambitious. He has always worked regularly and is fairly intelligent although his speech is very poor. He has been very cooperative

FOIA b 7 - D

(1) 157-1008

(1) FOIA b 7 - D

ls1/s

(2)

157-1008-55

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 12 1966	
FBI - NEW YORK	



5010-108

Buy U S Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO SAC (157-1008)

DATE September 1, 1966

FROM SA LOUIS S LEAR

SUBJECT DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND
JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RM

On 8/18/66 [FOIA b 7 - D] advised captioned organization is unknown to him.

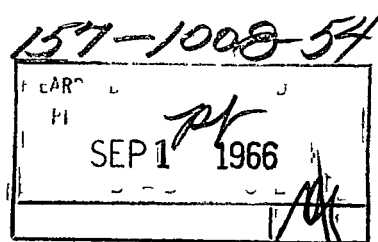
This PCI was discontinued at one time because of a mental problem and although he has never been known to furnish any unreliable information it is recommended he not be considered for such a delicate assignment

(1) 157-1008

(1) [FOIA b 7 - D]

ls1

[Handwritten signature]



5010-108

Buy U S Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, BALTIMORE (157-1008) DATE 9/27/66

FROM : SA JOHN J GROGAN

SUBJECT : DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC
RM

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

On 9/23/66, [REDACTED] was contacted and he advised that he had never heard of the Deacons of Defense or anyone in Baltimore who has been attempting to recruit anyone for such an organization

1 - BA 157-1008)

1 - [REDACTED] FOIA b 7 - D

JJG mer

(2)

mer

157-1008-53

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 28 1966	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

[Signature]



5010-108

Buy U S Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO SAC (157-1008)

FROM SA JAMES P BROWN

SUBJECT DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND
JUSTICE INC
RM

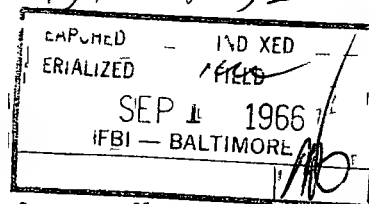
DATE 8/31/66

Re Memo Supr GARRISON to SAC, dated 8/18/66.

FOIA b 7 - D was contacted re captioned organization on 8/29/66.

He advised that he had heard a rumor of the organization but nothing definite. He advised that he would attempt to ascertain if the organization is in Baltimore and names of any organizers or members. He advised that he, personally, would not have any association with any of the militant type of organizations which advocate violence.

① - 157-1008
1 - FOIA b 7 - D
JPB/jpb
(2)



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO SAC, BALTIMORE (157-1008)

DATE 8/30/66

FROM SA ROBERT W. DAVIS

SUBJECT DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND
JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RM

On 8/25/66 [FOIA b 7 - D] a Negro Confidential Informant of the Baltimore Office, advised that he knew of no such organization as the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc., nor had he heard of any attempt in the area with which he is familiar, to recruit or organize such an organization.

[FOIA b 7 - D] whose value is in general criminal activities in the immediate area of his residence.

It was not deemed advisable or logical~~ly~~ to further discuss the purposes or aims of above captioned organization.

It is believed that Informant will contact this office at any time when he has information that any disturbance type group has plans for riots, violence or similar activity.

2 - Baltimore
(1-157-1008)

[FOIA b 7 - D]

RWD

157-1008-51

SEARCHED	-
SERIALIZED	in
AUG 31 1966	
FBI - L	

Date received <u>7/2/66</u>	Received from (name or symbol number) <u>St George Harrison, Balto P 20</u>	Received by <u>SA - Thomas J Walsh</u>
Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in person <input type="checkbox"/> by telephone <input type="checkbox"/> by mail <input type="checkbox"/> orally <input type="checkbox"/> recording device <input type="checkbox"/> written by Informant		

If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent Date Dictated _____ to _____ Transcribed _____ Authenticated by Informant _____	Date of Report <u>7/2/66</u> Date(s) of activity <u>7/2/66</u>
---	---

Brief description of activity or material <u>Registrations at Mt Royal Hotel of persons believed to be members of Deacons for Defense & Justice</u>	File where original is located if not attached
--	--

Remarks
St Harrison furnished attached material which are copies of registrations at the Mount Royal Hotel Baltimore Md. Earnest Thomas is a leader of the Deacons for Defense and Justice & registrations are of him and individuals traveling with him who are attending National Convention of CORE

Block Stamp

157-1008-50

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED _____	FILED _____
SEP 2 1966	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

AB

WE WELCOME YOU TO THE
MOUNT ROYAL HOTEL

Nº 61651

BALTIMORE MD

Name MR. EARLEST THOMAS
Firm D. D. J.
Street PO BOX 472
City JENNER State LA.

NOTICE TO GUESTS

A SAFE IS PROVIDED FOR THE DEPOSIT OF VALUABLES THE HOTEL
WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR VALUABLES NOT DEPOSITED THEREIN

ROOM	RATE	ACCOUNT	CLERK
407	\$ 7800	38156	gsm

WE WELCOME YOU TO THE
MOUNT ROYAL HOTEL

Nº 61653

BALTIMORE MD

Name Mrs. Carla Brown
Firm _____
Street 103 North 10th
City Merice State La.

NOTICE TO GUESTS

A SAFE IS PROVIDED FOR THE DEPOSIT OF VALUABLES THE HOTEL
WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR VALUABLES NOT DEPOSITED THEREIN

ROOM	RATE	ACCOUNT	CLERK
911	\$ 1500	38152	gsm

WE WELCOME YOU TO THE
MOUNT ROYAL HOTEL

Q. 61652

BALTIMORE MD

Name Bennie Bruce

Firm _____

Street Main St

City Grumbling State La.

NOTICE TO GUESTS

A SAFE IS PROVIDED FOR THE DEPOSIT OF VALUABLES THE HOTEL
WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR VALUABLES NOT DEPOSITED THEREIN

ROOM	RATE	ACCOUNT	CLERK
433	\$ 15.00	38153	gsm

WE WELCOME YOU TO THE
MOUNT ROYAL HOTEL

N. 61656

BALTIMORE MD

Name David Lee Whatley

Firm _____

Street 310 South 5th

City Ferriday State Louisiana

NOTICE TO GUESTS

A SAFE IS PROVIDED FOR THE DEPOSIT OF VALUABLES THE HOTEL
WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR VALUABLES NOT DEPOSITED THEREIN

ROOM	RATE	ACCOUNT	CLERK
803	\$ 15.50	38150	gsm

WE WELCOME YOU TO THE MOUNT ROYAL HOTEL

Nº 61655

BALTIMORE MD

ADVANCE PAY

Name Hal Stewart
 Firm Robert Stewart & Co. Insurance Agency
 Street 874 E. St.
 City New Haven Conn State Conn

NOTICE TO GUESTS

A SAFE IS PROVIDED FOR THE DEPOSIT OF VALUABLES THE HOTEL WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR VALUABLES NOT DEPOSITED THEREIN

ROOM	RATE	ACCOUNT	CLERK
819	\$ 350	38.49	Y. H. H.

ER

45919

JUL 2 1 30 AM '66
 BALTIMORE, MD

OK

JUL 7 1 47 AM '66
BALTIMORE, MD

61655

OK

JUL 7 1 32 AM '66
BALTIMORE, MD

61656

OK

JUL 21 29 AM '66
BALTIMORE, MD

61653

61652

JUL 21 22 AM '66
HOTEL
BALTIMORE, MD

OK

WE WELCOME YOU TO THE
MOUNT ROYAL HOTEL

Q N: 61654

BALTIMORE MD

Name Emmie Dick Andrews

Firm _____

Street 103 N. 10th St.

City Monroe State Louisiana

NOTICE TO GUESTS

A SAFE IS PROVIDED FOR THE DEPOSIT OF VALUABLES THE HOTEL
WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR VALUABLES NOT DEPOSITED THEREIN

ROOM	RATE	ACCOUNT	CLERK
203	\$ 1/500	38151	gsm

JUL 1 1 22 AM '66
HOTEL
BALTIMORE, MD

61651

28

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO SAC (157-1008)

DATE 8/30/66

FROM SA MARION M. WRIGHT

SUBJECT DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND
JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RM

Rememo of Supervisor M E GARRISON dated 8/18/66 and captioned as above.

FOIA b 7 - D was contacted this date. He advised that he works long hours and has no time for any outside activity. He has heard of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc but knows nothing other than was he has read in the newspapers. He would take no part in their activities and would not join such an organization-----He could not devote any time toward this on behalf of the FBI because he does not have the time. Further, he does not care to become involved with such an organization.

1- 157-1008

1- FOIA b 7 - D

MMW mmw

(2)

Wright

157-1008-49

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 30 1966	
FBI - BALTIMORE	



5010-108

Buy U S Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

SAC, BALTIMORE

FOIA b 7 - D

9/22/66

SA MAURICE D. duBOIS

FOIA b 7 - D

RE: DECANS OF DEFENSE AND
JUSTICE, INC.; RM

Informant stated that he had heard of this organization but did not know anyone who belonged to it and knew nothing to indicate that it was actually in existence here. He stated that if he could be furnished with the location of the organization and the identity of the person who is going the enlisting for members that he would be glad to assist in obtaining information about it.

FOIA b 7 - D

① - 157-1008

MDD:slz

(2)

slz

157-1008-48

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 27 1966	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

AB

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO SAC, BALTIMORE (157-1008)

FROM SA PAUL R MILBORN

SUBJECT DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC
RM

DATE 9/22/66

Re memo of Supervisor MAURICE E GARRISON dated
8/18/66

On 9/15/66, [REDACTED] Baltimore,
advised SA PAUL R MILBORN that he has recently heard
of the Deacons of Defense through reading about it in
Ebony Magazine He stated, however, that he has heard
of no attempts to organize this in Baltimore He will
advise the writer if he hears anything about it

② - Baltimore (157-1008)

(1 - [REDACTED])

PRM jtk

(2)



5010-108

157-1008-47

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 22 1966	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

Walsh

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

SAC, BALTIMORE

FOIA b 7 - D

9/19/66

SA WALTER M. GORDON

FOIA b 7 - D

On September 6, 1966, Informant advised that he is not familiar with the activity of the Deacons of Defense and Justice and has never heard of the organization. He stated that he is not involved in any racial groups, however, if he learns of any activity of the part of DDJ or any other racial group he will advise the Bureau.

It is the writer's opinion that this informant is not sufficiently racially inclined to be of any value to the Bureau re infiltration of the DDJ. For the most part, Informant furnishes information regarding gambling and gambling operations in the Pennsylvania Avenue section of Baltimore.

cc; 157-1008

WMG wmg

(2)

157-1008-46

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SE 1/1	PT
SEP 19 1966	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

[Handwritten signature]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, BALTIMORE

FOIA b 7 - D

DATE 9/16/66

FROM : SA JOHN F. HANSON

SUBJECT

FOIA b 7 - D

PCI was contacted on September 13, 1966, to explore his potential to obtain information concerning the Deacons of Defense. This PCI has not as yet furnished any pertinent information concerning criminal cases on which he was previously contacted. He appears cooperative but perhaps a little too eager to obtain information. In view of this, his emotional stability, and discretion, no further efforts will be made at this time to direct his activities to obtain information concerning any racial matters. In the event that he furnishes pertinent criminal information and displays information of judgement, efforts will then be made to further explore his potential accordingly.

(2) - Baltimore

(1) FOIA b 7 - D

(1-157-1008)

JFH:dh

(2) *dh*

157-1008-45

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 13 1966	
FBI-BALTIMORE	

Walsh



5010-108

Buy U S Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO SAC, BALTIMORE 157-1008
FOIA b 7 - D

DATE 9/2/66

FROM SA JAMES W ASCHENBRENER

SUBJECT FOIA b 7 - D - DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC
RM

On 9/2/66, PCI,

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

advised

that he had never heard of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc. and he was unaware that any organizational activity was taking place on the Avenue in connection with racial or civil rights matters. PCI stated that any organizational activity on the Avenue would most probably be unsuccessful since the inhabitants of that area are not interested in such organization. PCI added that attempts at any type of such organization would have the best chance of success in the Northwest Baltimore area. No reasons for such statement were given. Under the circumstances, the DDJ matter was not further discussed

PCI stated additionally that he does not suspect any outbreak of violence in the Pennsylvania Avenue area in the immediate future. This area has been and apparently will continue to be relatively calm.

157-1008-44

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 6 1966	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

AB



5010-108

1 - FOIA b 7 - D
① - 157-1008
JWA/jwa
(2)

Buy US Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO SAC, BALTIMORE (157-1008)

FROM SA GERALD N SMITH

SUBJECT DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND
JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RM

DATE 8/25/66

Re Memo for file dated 8/18/66, from Supervisor M E GARRISON

Referenced memo requested that it be considered whether PCI
[redacted] could be logically and with security
approached concerning captioned organization and possibly be
used to infiltrate this organization

[redacted] has only been open since May, 1966, and since his
initial contact he has been contacted only three times PCI
is employed at [redacted]

[redacted] where he works 12 hours a day, seven days a week This
leaves the PCI very little time for himself and he has
indicated he likes to spend what little time he has in
social activities To date the PCI has furnished only one
item of value and it appears from limited contact with him
that he would furnish information if it came to his attention
but he would not actively pursue information or go out of his
way to obtain information Consideration is being given to
closing this PCI if within the next two contacts he does not
produce substantial information of value

Due to the foregoing, it is not felt it would be feasible,
and with security, to approach the PCI and have him attempt
to join captioned organization and furnish information
regarding this organization

1 - [redacted]
GNS dfl
(2)



5010-108

157-1008-43

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 26 1966	
FBI BALTIMORE	

Buy U S Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-1008)

DATE 8/25/66

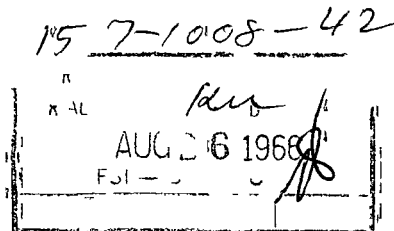
FROM : SA HUGH M BARNHARDT

SUBJECT : DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,
INC
RM

Re memo of Supr GARRISON to the SAC dated 8/18/66

The contents of above memo have been read and it is the opinion of the reporting agent that FOIA b 7 - D could not logically and with security be approached regarding this matter because of excessive drinking habits.

1 - 157-1008
1 - FOIA b 7 - D
HMB



5010-108

Buy U S Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, BALTIMORE (157-1008)

DATE 8/18/66

FROM SUPR M E GARRISON

SUBJECT DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND
JUSTICE, INCORPORATED
RM

The Deacons of Defense and Justice, Incorporated, (DDJ) is a Negro organization incorporated under the laws of Louisiana with headquarters at Jonesboro, La. It was organized in 1965 and at that time had as one of the purposes the arming of Negroes for protection against Klan violence, and the organization became active in racial demonstrations in Louisiana. A CHARLES SIMS, in June, 1966, was a self-admitted President of the DDJ, at Bogalusa, Louisiana. (Information developed by New Orleans indicated there were known or alleged chapters in Louisiana, Cleveland, ^{Ohio} Mississippi, Washington, D.C., and Chicago, Ill.) This can best be described as an extremely militant all-Negro organization whose members have advocated violence and the use of violence.

An ERNEST THOMAS, of Louisiana, allegedly the national Vice-President and Northern Director of the DDJ, was in Baltimore at the time of the national convention of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) in early July, 1966. He was not known to engage in any activity at that time.

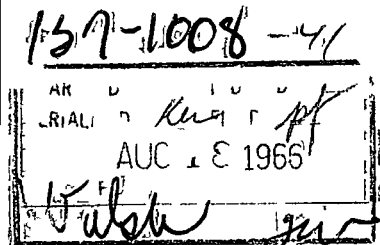
Baltimore City Police Department and Baltimore sources

MEG ers
(25)

cc 157-1008

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D



5010-108

Buy U S Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

BA 157-1008

of this office have turned up rumors that the DDJ is attempting to or would attempt to organize a chapter in Baltimore. An article appearing in the "Baltimore Afro-American", a Baltimore Negro newspaper, of August 13, 1966, set out that a reporter allegedly interviewed a JOHN SMITH, age 42, address unknown, and admittedly a false name, who stated he was in Baltimore to organize the DDJ. A security source of this office advised August 15, 1966, that he had heard of such an individual who was supposed to be hanging around the 1300 to 2000 block of Pennsylvania Ave and was recruiting for membership in the DDJ.

Copies of this memo have been directed to the files of CIs and PCIs, all Negro, in the Baltimore area generally. Each Agent to whom a designated FOIA b 7 - D is assigned is to review this memo and consider whether the CI or PCI can logically and with security be approached concerning the DDJ. If so, this office is vitally interested in getting informants in the organization now. If this CI or PCI can be developed, every effort should be made to direct his activities in the DDJ.

It should again be cautioned that this cannot be done on other than a selective basis.

Results of contact with these CIs and PCIs should be furnished by separate memo to the file by office memo form (Optional Form 10) and not by FD 209 (Inft Contact Form). Two copies should be furnished, one for 157-1008, and the other to the appropriate FOIA b 7 - D. These evaluations and contacts should be made as soon as possible.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

DEACONS PLAN TO COME HERE

Thousands
seen ready
to join up

They are after all of us everywhere and we are coming here to function.

John Smith, 42, address unknown (he vows he'll never give it out) was explaining why he was in Baltimore Wednesday.

Mr. Smith is an advance man for what he says will be a Baltimore Chapter of the Deacons of Justice and Defense.

The militant organization, based in New Orleans, with a branch office in Chicago, is coming to Baltimore. Mr. Smith said, "because the climate is ripe."

Pressed to define the point, Mr. Smith tensed every ounce of his 142-pound frame, nervously pressed his hands together and bucked his bright brown eyes.

"We have been doing a survey here for several weeks and we have found that they are after the black man here too."

"We are convinced we can help because our survey shows that there are several thousand here who are ready to join us."

THE ADVANCE man who said he has visited Baltimore on several occasions

during his career as a merchant seaman — which he has dropped, in interest of the cause — revealed a surprising knowledge of the city and of the current seething racial picture.

We probably would have been here before now but things seemed sorta quiet in Baltimore so we decided to stay where we were needed most.

But now the speaker's voice trailed off into silence.

He explained that the but now has reference to the recent activities of the National State's Rights Party's activities and the frequent appearance of the Klan in the city.

Further indication of his awareness of current affairs was shown in Mr. Smith's knowledge of the present noisy controversy which has brought praise and condemnation on Interim Police Commissioner George M. Gelston.

"I see them people are trying to get the head man in the police department. I understand they don't like the way he's running things."

You know what that means. Yep, we'll be needed.

The rapid talking stranger who had found his way to the third floor City Room after all efforts to locate him failed, following reports that he was in the city — was asked how does his group plan to help and why does he think their help is needed.

Oh I don't know. He hesitated. We just think maybe that when they start chasing us up and down the alleys we just might find an old rusty pis tol nearby at might accidentally go off. He said without changing his facial expression.

This indicates this organization is working here in Baltimore

Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state)

1 BALTIMORE AFRICAN AMERICAN, BALTIMORE MD.

Date 8/13/66

Edition 7 Star

Author

Editor

Title DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.,

Character RM

or

Classification 157-1008

Submitting Office Baltimore

☐ Being Investigated

157-1008-40

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 16 1966	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

Hash

We hope to find out all about this group

Open

HE STRENUOUSLY denied that the Deacons are violent while mildly protesting that "we just protect ourselves."

Asked if his group had any connection with riots in other cities or the growing popularity of domestic guerrilla warfare, he thought momentarily.

"I wouldn't say that but if any of us happened to be near the scene we might have stumble over an old wet book of matches which started burning or some thing."

In his address, Mr. Smith was mum on his plans or those of his associates as to steps and the time element involved in their locating here.

There's just one thing I can say, we've got to move fast, he confided. As you know, they are working on a bill in Washington that would keep us from crossing state lines.

We must get set up before it's passed.

Mrs. Smith also denied that the Deacons will be affiliated with any local rights groups in Baltimore.

A lot of those groups do a lot of talking and issuing press releases. We can't afford to talk. We have to act.

Asked where he could be reached while surveying Baltimore, Mr. Smith said:

"Don't you call me 'Till

call you." He said he was awaiting authorization papers to set up the proposed branch and expected to receive them within a few days.

He also declined to disclose how he expects the document to arrive in Baltimore.

ASKED IF he was met with any civil rights leaders since arriving here, Mr. Smith answered:

No, we move too fast. You see the NAACP, CORE, Urban League and people like that don't bother us and we don't bother them. We like it that way.

He was asked why he decided to link up with the militant organization.

It's something I feel inside. It's something I must do. I feel that my life is at stake anyway, so I might as well do what I have to do.

He was asked what if any material benefits he receives from the organization.

It's bigger than that. And all of my associates know that if anything happens to me, they are to use my body as a stepping stone and keep going.

The self-described emissary of the Deacons arrived in the city at a time when reports are rampant that the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM) is also eyeing Baltimore as a possible branch location.

"No, I haven't heard about it," Mr. Smith answered a question. "I wouldn't like to know if they have such plans. I like the way they operate."

A reporter, dubious of the unusual name of John Smith, asked to see some credentials.

He took from his pocket a greenish card.

Carrying a Bougainvillea place line, and signed by a Joseph R. Henry, secretary, the card showed a \$10 fee. Also inscribed was this message:

"Emancipation Dues For Deacons."

FBI NEW ORLS

9:53 PM CST URGENT 7-3-66 RJS

TO BALTIMORE (157-1008)
FROM NEW ORLEANS (157-3290)

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE (DDJ). RM.

REURTEL SEVEN THREE SIXTYSIX.

INFORMATION REGARDING ERNEST THOMAS FORWARDED YOUR OFFICE BY
LHM JUNE THIRTY CAPTIONED AS ABOVE.

RE FOIA b 6 POSSIBLY IDENTICAL WITH VICTIM NEW ORLEANS
ONE SEVEN THREE CASE IN NINETEEN SIXTYFOUR REGARDING COMPLAINT
INVOLVING DISCRIMINATION ON MONROE, LOUISIANA BUS LINE. FOIA b 6

DESCRIBED AS NEGRO FEMALE, FOURTEEN YEARS OLD IN NINETEEN SIXTYFOUR,
DOB FOIA b 6 FIVE FEET FIVE INCHES, ONE
THREE FIVE POUNDS, STUDENT, SINGLE, NO ARRESTS ADMITTED. NO
CONNECTION WITH DDJ LOCATED IN NEW ORLEANS FILES AND NO REPORTED
VIOLENCE POTENTIAL.

RE BENNIE BRASS: IDENTICAL WITH BENNIE ROY BRASS, CORE TASK
FORCE WORKER IN MONROE, LA., IN NINETEEN SIXTYFOUR, WHO IS
VICTIM IN NUMEROUS PUBLIC ACCOMODATION CASES IN NO DIVISION, BRASS
WHO IS ACTIVE IN CIVIL RIGHTS MATTERS, HAS NO REPORTED CONNECTION
WITH DDJ AND NO REPORTED VIOLENCE POTENTIAL. DESCRIBED AS NEGRO
MALE, AGE TWENTY, DOB FOIA b 6
SIX FEET, ONE EIGHT ZERO POUNDS, HEAVY BUILD, ONE INCH CUT SCAR
RIGHT CHEEK BEGINNING AT NOSTRIL. PRIOR ARREST BY MONROE PD FOR
CRIMINAL TRESPASS, DISTURBING PEACE WHICH ARREST WAS OUTGROWTH OF
CIVIL RIGHTS TEST CASE. BRASS SOPHOMORE STUDENT AT GRAMBLING
COLLEGE IN NINETEEN SIXTYSIX, ADDRESS MAIN STREET, GRAMBLING, LA. 70708
END PAGE ONE

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
JUL 5 1966
FBI-BALTIMORE

PAGE TWO

RE DAVID LEE WHATLEY: WHATLEY, VOLUNTEER CORE WORKER, IS
VICTIM IN SEVERAL ONE SEVEN THREE AND FORTY FOUR CASES IN NO
DIVISION AND IS DESCRIBED AS NEGRO MALE, DOB [REDACTED] FOIA b 6
AGE [REDACTED] FOIA b 6 FIVE FEET EIGHT INCHES, ONE FORTY FIVE POUNDS,
STUDENT ATTENDING FERRIDAY HIGH SCHOOL IN NINETEEN SIXTY SIX. NO
ARRESTS ADMITTED. WHATLEY WAS REPORTED TO BE VICE PRESIDENT
OF FERRIDAY FREEDOM MOVEMENT, FERRIDAY, LA., IN NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE.
WHATLEY'S HOME SHOT INTO BY UNKNOWN PERSONS IN NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE.
ON ONE THIRTY SIXTYSIX HOME IN WHICH WHATLEY WAS LIVING WITH OTHER
CIVIL RIGHTS WORKER WAS INVOLVED IN ATTEMPTED BOMBING HOWEVER ONLY
DETONATOR OF BOMB EXPLODED AS DYNAMITE FAILED TO GO OFF.

ON FOUR FIFTEEN SIXTYSIX A SOURCE WITH WHOM UNSUFFICIENT CONTACT
HAS BEEN HAD TO DETERMINE RELIABILITY ADVISED THAT WHATLEY AND OTHER
CIVIL RIGHTS WORKERS IN FERRIDAY AREA WERE ATTENDING KARATE
CLASSES WHICH WERE TAUGHT BY A NEGRO MALE NAMES NAJA, WHO LIVED AT
THE WHATLEY HOME. THIS TRAINING WAS SUPPOSEDLY TO PREVENT ANY HARM
TO THE PARTICIPANTS SHOULD TROUBLE DEVELOP.

THIS SAME SOURCE ADVISED ON SIX TWENTYTHREE SIXTYSIX THAT
DAVID WHATLEY, PRESIDENT OF FERRIDAY FREEDOM MOVEMENT HAS BEEN
CHOSEN BY CORE TO TAKE A TRIP TO USSR THIS SUMMER. WHATLEY
REPORTED TO BE LEAVING FOR RUSSIA ON ABOUT JULY NINE, ACCORDING TO
SOURCE.

WHATLEY NOT KNOWN TO BE VIOLENT OR MEMBER OF DDJ.

END.

BA.. VEM

FBI BALTO

CL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE NEW ORLEANS	OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW ORLEANS	DATE 7/21/66	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 3/23/66 - 6/28/66
TITLE OF CASE DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC., aka. Deacons for Defense and Justice, Inc.		REPORT MADE BY SA EDWARD J. CARNEY, JR.	TYPED jm
		CHARACTER OF CASE RM	

SYNOPSIS:

REFERENCE

Report of SA EDWARD J. CARNEY, JR. dated at New Orleans.

-P-

LEADS

NEW ORLEANS DIVISION

AT BOGALUSA, LOUISIANA

Will continue to maintain contact with and sources in order to follow pertinent activity DDJ.

AT JONESBORO, LOUISIANA

Will maintain contact with informants and follow pertinent activities of the DDJ.

APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN
COPIES MADE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 - Bureau (157-2466)(RM) 1 - Baltimore (Info.)(RM) 1 - Chicago (Info.)(RM) 1 - Cleveland (Info.)(RM) 1 - Jackson (Info.)(RM) 1 - ICG, New Orleans 1 - Secret Service, New Orleans 5 - New Orleans (157-3290) 	<p>157-1008</p> <p>SEARCHED INDEXED</p> <p>SERIALIZED FILED</p> <p>JUL 27 1966</p> <p>FBI - BALTIMORE</p> <p><i>W. A. S. 2</i></p> <p><i>copy, under way</i></p>

This document must be reclassified prior to its release from Baltimore Division. See classification of documents in Closed File Section in cabinet marked "Reclassification Documents"

NO 157-3290
EJC jmp

INFORMANTS

IDENTITY OF SOURCE

NO T-1 is

FOIA b 7 - D

NO T-2 is

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

NO T-3 is

FOIA b 7 - D

NO T-4 is

FOIA b 7 - D

NO T-5 is

FOIA b 7 - D

NO T-6 is

FOIA b 7 - D

NO T-7 is

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

LOCATION OF INFORMATION

FOIA b 7 - D

JN 157-3465

ADMINISTRATIVE

This report is classified confidential because information furnished by ATTU could possibly identify the ATTU source.

An information copy of this report has been designated for the indicated offices because of investigative interest now or possibly in the future. Leads in this connection are being handled between auxiliary offices and the OO as required.

Copies of this report have been designated for ICG and Secret Service, New Orleans.

The transcript of an interview with ERNEST THOMAS on "Hot Line" of WVON radio in Chicago, Illinois, is being set forth in its entirety in the details of this report since the statements made during this interview by THOMAS clearly sets forth the strongly militant thinking of THOMAS, who appears to be emerging as a leader of the DDJ in the North. "Hot Line" was taped on 5/23/66 by IC JOHN H. PEARSON, Chicago Office.

B*
COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1 - ICG, New Orleans
1 - Secret Service, New Orleans

Report of: SA EDWARD J. CARNEY, JR.
Date: July 21, 1966

Office: NEW ORLEANS

Field Office File No: NO 157-3290

Bureau File No: 157-2466

Title: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.

Character: RACIAL MATTERS

Synopsis:

ERNEST THOMAS, alleged Regional Vice President and Northern Director, DDJ, headquarters at Chicago, Illinois, in radio interview on 5/23/66 claimed 10,000 - 15,000 Deacons would be brought into Chicago, summer of 1966. THOMAS appeared as featured speaker at forum sponsored by FNSF in Detroit, Michigan, on 4/1/66, at which time THOMAS averred there would be "groups of Deacons" in every community in both the North and South by summer, 1966. Activities of DDJ chapters in Louisiana set forth. HARILEL JONES, self-admitted Vice President of DDJ in Cleveland, Ohio, alleged Cleveland Deacons possess high-powered rifles. CHARLES SIMS, self-admitted President, DDJ, Bogalusa, Louisiana, on 6/13/66, stated DDJ of Bogalusa, would send Deacons to Baltimore, Maryland, after conclusion of JAMES MEREDITH march in Mississippi. Chicago Police Department officer on 5/25/66 advised DDJ recently opened Chicago office and that ERNEST THOMAS is reportedly the person responsible for organizing the Chicago DDJ chapter. NO T-1 on 6/16/66 advised THOMAS does not have support of DDJ, Jonesboro, La., to set up DDJ chapters.

-P-

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EJC jmp

DETAILS

Characterizations of organizations mentioned herein are a part of the appendix section of this report.

ACTIVITIES AND STATEMENTS OF ERNEST THOMAS, ALLEGED REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT AND NORTHERN DIRECTOR OF THE DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC. (DDJ)

ERNEST THOMAS appeared on the program "Hot Line" on WVON radio, Chicago, Illinois, on May 23, 1966. "Hot Line" is a radio program on which a controversial figure is usually interviewed. Telephone questions are solicited from listeners which are answered by the interviewee. A transcript of the program pertaining to THOMAS is as follows

ERNEST THOMAS, local organizer for the Deacons for Defense and Justice, appeared on "Hot Line," May 23, 1966, 11 00 to 12 00 Midnight, on WVON Radio WESLEY SOUTH was the Moderator

THOMAS

Well, I've been in and out of Chicago for the last seven months Presently it's around 455 actual members of it now But the number is going to grow quite large. Actually, we got to open an office on the north and south side now because we have such a great number that is coming in we won't be able with the space that is . .

Moderator

Listen, I want to ask you I noticed you opened on the west side first Why did you open over there and not on the south?

THOMAS

Well, you take the west side for instance I think it is more or less of a place where something is really about to explode It is just like being in with a load of dynamite with the fuse lit, and we felt if we could come into the west side and begin to relate to the man,

the problems there and if he really wants 'to solve them he could go about doing it. Hopefully that he will try to do something about the problem on the west side. Because, see, as long as you let the problem exist we can keep hollering about crime rates and all of this but if we really want to stop crime rates then we get some jobs for people because ain't nobody in the world. I wouldn't even recommend that a man stand out in front of the A&P or the Acme (phonetic) markets and look at a ham and starve to death there. So the best thing for him to do would be to break the glass to get him some ham. Now so the structure wants to deal with this then they have to begin to give some jobs, make some jobs.

Moderator

Will you also be a job seeking agency?

THOMAS

Certainly. We will be trying to seek out employment for, as the structure say, qualified personnel. We will be trying to find them some qualified personnel.

Moderator

What are the requirements to belong to the Deacons for Defense and Justice?

THOMAS

Well, first thing you must be a Negro, you must be 21 years of age, as the board say you must have the character of becoming a Deacon.

Moderator

Now that is the crucial question

THOMAS

Well, the board figure that you must feel as though you have to make a decision whether you stand for freedom or you are out here just saying you represent freedom or you are fighting for freedom And this means whatever necessary to gain freedom, this is what you are willing to do

Moderator

In other words, if a person who say he is for freedom and is fighting for freedom unless he, well, joins your group then you don't believe that he really wants it. Where you would go all the way possibly in order to get the freedom that another person would take to the courts.

THOMAS

Well, what I mean. I hope it don't be misleading. We're glad to see the other groups here.

Moderator

Well, I mean if they don't join you they are not, from what you just said a moment ago, if I am interpreting you correctly, then they are just

out here talking and they really don't mean what they say

THOMAS


Well, that's true. You see, because how can you tell a man that you are going to be out here after this freedom and are going to let him beat your head and when he whip your head you are coming back tomorrow and let him whip your head. To us this does not seem like being a man Now we are after what is rightfully ours and upon action for what is rightfully ours then I expect to get it and we don't expect you to use brute force against us to deny us this

Moderator

Ladies and gentlemen I just got a note from the control room that we had a little difficulty before we went on the air and probably you didn't hear who our guest is tonight He is Mr ERNEST THOMAS, who is the Regional President and Northern Director of the Deacons for Defense and Justice. They opened an office on the west side three weeks ago. As I said, I want to welcome him back You know he was our guest, I think it was back in October, wasn't it?

THOMAS

Yes, it was.



Moderator

So in case you were listening and wondering who that was on the "Hot Line" his name is ERNEST THOMAS and he's the top Deacon here. Is that right?

THOMAS

That's true

Moderator

Why do you say Deacon? Why not pastor?

THOMAS

It was a name that was kicked around and it was beginning to look. All this was church orientated and so the Deacons more or less taking care of the business of the church and so we said this is a good name because we're out here protecting the civil rights workers so that is the name we settled on, Deacons for Defense and Justice.

Moderator

Is there any way of just recognizing a Deacon on the street?

THOMAS

No, there is really no way because as you know Deacons are black so, you see a lot of black people

Moderator

You want to see a million Deacons. What about women? Can they join?

THOMAS

Yes, women can join too. We have a Deaconess started This is only in the Northern chapters, though, that we have Deaconess.



Moderator

THOMAS

Moderator

Will they be in the gun clubs too, 'rifle clubs'?

Well, certainly.

Talking about the requirements in order to be a member of Deacons, and that's when I was handed this note, and you were telling us the different requirements. Did you finish? I cut you off there.

THOMAS

Well, I pretty well covered it

Moderator

What about a fellow who has been in prison?

THOMAS

Well, a man being in prison doesn't ..

Moderator

He can still be a Deacon.

THOMAS

He still can be a Deacon because man you have to face this fact, and this is one thing I blame society for. If a man has a criminal record and if we're trying to reform the man certainly he needs employment. And we find as a whole your criminals are mostly unemployed and with no hopes of getting a job because as soon as a man looks at his record then he refuse him so therefore you are telling him go back out and stick somebody up or go back out and do the same crime over again and let the state take care of you. This is bad.

Moderator

Do the Deacons intend to protect civil rights workers here?

THOMAS

Well, we intend to protect civil rights workers to a point in the city of Chicago. If we're called upon to help out then we will do this.

Moderator

Now what do you mean by that? That's rather ambiguous. If we're called - say that they are marching as they did down near Mayor DALEY's home as they did last summer and they ask you for protection. Now maybe, oh maybe 200 or 300 policemen there. Would they feel they needed some protection from you? I mean just say that someone said well here's a good chance for us to have a confrontation. Let's call the Deacons. What would you do in a case like this?

THOMAS

Well, we would come in more or less as witnesses to the fact. We wouldn't participate openly in the march but we would be there as spectators and we would be looking out for police brutality and John Bigot coming around and agitating them whereas they have committed them to non-violence. So that if the police would not handle John Bigot we would take care of John Bigot for them.

Moderator

In other words, you put John Bigot in his place

THOMAS

That's right

Moderator

Would you be armed?

THOMAS

Well, I wouldn't feel that we would need to be.

Moderator

You wouldn't feel a need to be but would you be?

THOMAS

Well, no. If we didn't feel that we need to be armed...

Moderator

If you felt that you need to be you would be armed.

THOMAS

Oh, certainly

Moderator

Even though the police are there.

THOMAS

Certainly. Because, you know, like one has to protect himself and if you lack the confidence in the police to protect you then you have to protect yourself.

Moderator

And then what about if the Governor would send in the National Guard and they declare martial law?

THOMAS

Well, if they declared martial law then like I say we would kind of go along with it like to a point as long as the police is capable of carrying out equal justice.

Moderator

Now you say to a point You indicate that there might be a point that you would not go

THOMAS

As I plainly stated we are fighting for our freedom and this means at all cost Now if the man don't want to give any ground then that is what it is. It's a fight But I am hoping and I think that somewhere along the line that the man will give some ground. But we intend to have our freedom one way or the other. It's no if/and about that.

Moderator

Now what do the Deacons, what do you think about the Chicago Police Department?

THOMAS

Well, here on the off and on periods that I have been in the city here could stand a lot, could be changed in Chicago here with the police department to make it function a little better For an instance, on the west side here you see sometimes two white police. Well, a lot of times you see two white policemen in the car together, two blacks together, then you see, at night I see detectives riding four whites in the car. When you see things like this you know

10/11/68

that some black person is going to get abused because when they riding like that that is what they're out there big Ninety per cent of the time. And this is bad And if the man really wanted to make a change in Chicago then there should be integration here Black and white police together. And this way the black one couldn't abuse the white one and the white one couldn't abuse the black one because after all he belongs to the black race and he belongs to the white race This would seem to be a way of balancing it out But I've been told they have done it last year, you know, during the riots for a while but then they put them back together So I don't know what the situation is going to be here That would be one of my suggestions to, as a matter of fact I have a meeting with Superintendent WILSON on Thursday evening I am going to strongly suggest this would be one of the best things really if they intended to try to keep it cool some, is to put a little integration in the Chicago Police Department.

Moderator

Did you say you will be meeting with
Superintendent WILSON? When?

THOMAS

Thursday evening

Moderator

Thursday evening Now you were talking about
riots Do the Deacons believe there is a
possibility of a riot in Chicago, this summer?

THOMAS

Yes. We are hoping strongly it doesn't be a
riot in the city of Chicago and if we can get
the cooperation from the people in the city of
Chicago we might be able to stop a riot

Moderator

What do you call cooperation?

THOMAS

Well, from the various groups and from the
various agencies, from the police department,
from the city officials, you know We have
gotten a pretty cold shoulder since we've been
in town from the power structure, and this in
itself says that it's something that is wrong
somewhere

Moderator

Would you expect them to give you a welcoming
in open arms?

THOMAS

No, I am not looking for any welcome in open
arms but just a lot of things that have happened

since I've been in the city in and out here they have indicated that at this particular point they were more or less ignoring us and wondering what's going on

Moderator

Just ignoring you. How did you happen to get an interview or conference with Superintendent WILSON? Did you request it?

THOMAS

The only thing I know that his secretary called my secretary and.,

Moderator

You had put in a request for it.

THOMAS

No

Moderator

He is requesting you to come to see him

THOMAS

Right It's some more groups that's going to be there - supposed to be So, I'll find out really Well, I said what's going to be the topic and she said she didn't know, so I'll find out when I get there

Moderator

Now, getting back to this riot This is a very sensitive issue here What do you think will be the major cause of a riot, if there is one?

THOMAS

Well, that would go into quite a few parts The frustration that the black people live in the ghetto from day to day creates a certain

threat of a riot. Then with unemployment, with not being able to be a man of his house or head of the household and then on top of all of that police brutality I think if a riot occurred it will occur from police brutality

Moderator

You think that will be the incident that will trigger it off, as it did in Watts?

THOMAS

That is true.

Moderator


Do you think the same disastrous results would.

THOMAS

Well, I think if a full scale riot would get rolling in the city of Chicago it would be much more difficult than the one in Watts I would say it would be three times as worse as the LA riot for the location of the city, the way Chicago is located You have blacks on the north side and the west side and the south side Now this would create, I think, a more worser riot than the LA riot

Moderator

Now there was a cross burning here over the weekend out in, oh I think it was, Kenilworth Did the Deacons have any idea of that? (Inaudible)



THOMAS

Yes, well, we haven't been out there yet but we have contacted some people that live out there and we have been gathering some information. Of course, it never fooled us for any minute that Chicago was any different from Mississippi because you have more bigots in Chicago than they have in Mississippi and Louisiana put together. So this is a known fact so we're not assuming that these are all the good guys but we are not assuming that all of them are bad guys either, but we know that there are more Birchites and Klansmen, Minutemen in the city of Chicago than they could muster in Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana put together.

Moderator

What do you think of the white teenagers who attacked at a Negro last night? If you remember this was in the news today

THOMAS

Yes, I did. Well, you take a situation like this. You know these things like this is good to really point out to the people here in the city that although they live as though they are in the North and they expect to live in the different

- / - =


surroundings they don't feel that they are going to get attacked on the streets and some of them are just misled, and this shows you that whether you are involved in anything as long as you are black you are in it And he could have been the mayor or the judge or the prosecutor of Chicago, if he'd have been black and he'd have been there at that particular time he would have got his head whipped And this is the whole thing You are black and whether you are a bad black guy or a good black guy, if you are at the wrong place at the wrong time you get messed around.

Moderator

Do you think that slum conditions are as bad in Chicago as the, well, Southern Christian Leadership Conference has said? You know Dr KING has come up here as you have and established a headquarters on the west side also

THOMAS

Yes, well, after looking over the community I would say that it is worse than what SCLC says that it is because in some way or another I think it's time to let the man know the real, the facts, and not sugar coating the words and



not telling him things are so good in the ghetto and stuff like this because things are important words You ride down through some of those streets there and see the rats how large they are and you look at this and you say now here is a city of this size, not a poor city and I'm quite sure they could get rid of the rats.

Moderator

I'd like to ask, when did you see your last rat?

THOMAS

Today.

Moderator

You saw a rat today?

THOMAS

Today

Moderator

Was he a live rat?

THOMAS

A live rat And as big as the squirrels we kill down South

Moderator

Four legged one

THOMAS

That's right

Moderator

Do you think that the Chicago Welfare Agency is doing a good job?

THOMAS

Well, that would have to be determined, you would have to determine that whether they are doing a good job, that would be a pretty difficult question. Now I think the welfare is doing the job that the men, the structure, want them to do.

But it is not doing the job that needs to be done to help the people, you see. There's a difference. A lot of people get confused even with the poverty program. It's serving the purpose that the man wants it to serve but it is not serving the purpose that we want it to serve and that is to help black people.

Moderator

Getting back to a question just a previous one, you were talking about the slums and you were saying that it is not as good as people see it. Who is saying it is good? Everybody I've heard here in Chicago, in the last few years I think everybody is saying it's bad.

THOMAS

Everyone's saying it is bad but yet we don't see any changes.

Moderator

But then nobody is saying it, then you will retract that saying that we are saying it is good living in the slums.

THOMAS

Why, sure. If I made that mistake I certainly retract that.

Moderator

What do you think about the unemployment situation here? What are you going to do about that?



THOMAS


Well, it is pretty bad and somehow or another we're going to have to meet, I am quite sure, with the city officials here and the state employment agency and the poverty program people and see about getting some of these people some jobs

Moderator

How are you going to be able to help get jobs and help people in their housing problems and this very intricate education problem?

THOMAS

It's going to be quite a problem That is why I say we are going to need some help from various groups to help put this together, put a program together to where it will be effective, and unless we get some help like I say it's going to be very difficult to help people Now when we are not able to help people then we are not going to have any further say if the man don't listen to our plea and when we relate to the ghetto to him what the ghetto is saying and he don't act, then if something erupt then don't come to us, because we are not going out there to try to stop them people from throwing no bricks.



Moderator

Do you think they would come to you in the first place?

THOMAS


Well, I think they would try to come to anybody that perhaps could have a little influence on the ghetto.

Moderator

From indications they might think that you are trying to start it

THOMAS

No. They may do that but that is up to their own opinion, but we are not out to riot or create a riot but we're here to let him know that the situation exists and if he don't do something about it then it is going to be a riot. It's if/and about that and they don't need to tell the man there ain't going to be no riot it's going to be a cool summer because then you get a lot of innocent people hurt when you tell them that things are pretty good, we'll make it over this summer without any incident. And you have 50 or 20 white people coming through the ghetto and getting trapped in something like that and they might be some pretty decent white people and they get messed around. And the same



thing if some blacks coming through that don't even know anything they could get messed around. So these are things I look at as the innocent person. Now if he was John Bigot coming into the community abusing someone in the community I wouldn't have any sympathy for him. You see what I mean. But you have to have sympathy for people.

Moderator

Listen, you know you were talking about what you intend to do and I understand you are in charge of all the branches that you will be setting up in the North.

THOMAS

That is true.

Moderator

What do you think of the civil rights conference which is to be held in Washington next week on June first and second which hopes to alleviate many of the problems of both North and South.

THOMAS

Well, I find it pretty hard to believe. I went to one of the pre-conferences in Philadelphia and after listening at the discussion there and participating in the discussion I could see plainly that you could have 11 civil rights

conferences a year and you are not going to accomplish too much. Now, the Federal Government knows the problem. You got FBI Agents and all other kind of agents and then the city police have intelligence agents and the man really ought to know the problem better than I do. But now the point is does he intend to do something about it. Now, I don't need to sit around and talk to him 40 or 45 minutes, two hours, three hours and get up and leave and nothing is done. That's just a waste of my time and a waste of his time and I think it's very bad. I don't think too much is going to come out of it. As a matter of fact I am supposed to go to Washington on the first and second and picket it. We are supposed to bring up about 2,000 Deacons.

Moderator

In other words, you don't think too much about the conference.

THOMAS

No. I don't think too much good for the black people will come out of the conference.

Moderator

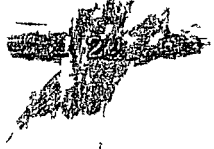
Listen. I've been listening to you now for 29 minutes and I want to ask you one question. Do the Deacons intend to demonstrate in Chicago this summer?

THOMAS

Well, we really don't intend to demonstrate. I think demonstrations are played out just about and I think this is one approach we have used to the fullest. I find when you go out in the street demonstrating the man says he has a Constitutional right to picket, you have a lawful right to demonstrate and then he comes around and locks you up, and you pay thousands of dollars in court fees and then after paying all that you cut it loose, you know. We don't have any intention of spending no great fortune on no demonstration, the man arrests you and all that, so I don't see that we would be in the streets too much demonstrating because this does not get us too far. We get the short end of the stick every time.

Moderator

If you should have any trouble next summer or while you are here will the Deacons ask for help from other chapters across the United States, if you need it here?



THOMAS

Yes, well we feel as though we need a little help in the city of Chicago now and we have called in and in the next two months, two to three months, there will be approximately ten to fifteen thousand outside Deacons coming in to the city of Chicago to try and help...

Moderator

How many?

THOMAS

Ten to fifteen thousand.

Moderator

Ten to fifteen thousand Deacons. They going to live here?

THOMAS

They'll live in the city.

Moderator

They will live in the city.

THOMAS

That's right.

Moderator

So we can expect an influx of ten to fifteen thousand Deacons.

THOMAS

Over the next three months.

Moderator

Over the next three months.

Ladies and gentlemen, our guest tonight is ERNEST THOMAS, Regional Vice-President and Northern Director of the Deacons for Defense and Justice, which opened an office on the west side here three weeks ago. If you have a

question or comment we invite you to give us a call here on the Hot Line. Our telephone number is 847-2602.

(Commercial)

Well, we are back with you ladies and gentlemen. Our guest tonight ERNEST THOMAS, Regional ~~Vice~~ President and Northern Director of the Deacons for Defense and Justice. Our telephone number 847-2602, and from all indications a lot of people are going to have something they want to talk with you, Mr. THOMAS. I'd like to ask you two or three other questions before we go to the telephone and that is - you know that we have a lot of young people here in Chicago. They have associated themselves in what we call gangs, west side gangs, east side, south side, north side. You name it and they've got gangs. Will there be a youth program with the Deacons? Yes, we are hoping strongly that we can get a pretty decent youth program.

THOMAS

Moderator

THOMAS

You going to draw them from this group here?

Pardon?

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Moderator

THOMAS

Do you intend to draw the youth from the gangs? Any, whether he is a gang youth or a youth we want to try to work with them some type of way to keep them primarily in something, in an active way, and we hope to try and form softball leagues all over the city and maybe a little participation in that baseball league and what happens, you know.

Moderator

Well, one other question. What do you think about the peace demonstrations? We've been having some peace demonstrations against our involvement in Viet Nam for a few months now.

THOMAS

Well, I've been more or less pushed into several of them. I didn't understand them until I was in them. I ended up the police said go this way, go this way and I ended up there. But what's puzzling me it is so many whites out there talking about end the war in Viet Nam and they are the ones that mostly prospers from whatever the U.S....

Moderator

But you didn't say these individual whites who are asking; I am thinking about the young man who is

going to be on my show tomorrow night,
EARL SILBAR. Now he is very much against the
profit that's in the...

THOMAS

Well, that's true. But what I am say is
I don't see Negroes on a mass scale out there
talking about the war in Viet Nam. I think
this is really what need to be that blacks say
well why should I go to Viet Nam.

Moderator

Oh, you think they should be out on the peace
move, or are you?

THOMAS

I'm saying that Afro-Americans should be out
there. I'm not so much concerned with whether
they are integrated out there but I'm saying
that because there is a different cut of the
pie when although some the ones that are
protesting now the war in Viet Nam whites may
eventually end up working on the space ship
that goes to the moon or somewhere. But I'm
speaking of black people that are dying and
that have died in every war in this country and
now when we come back home we cannot get our
rightful slice of the pie. And every group,

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every other minority group has gotten a slice of the pie. This is why I am saying black people are going to have to say well why don't you go fight your battle until you give me my rightful share of the pie. See, because I believe in this law in the sea. You know, the ship is sunken and damaged and you tow it in you get so much of the cargo. So I think if we help you exploit the people then we should have a rightful cut of the pie.

Moderator

One other question. What do you think of the political structure here in Chicago?

THOMAS

Well, from all indications it is a pretty bad thing.

Moderator

In what respect?

THOMAS

Well, in all respects.

Moderator

Such as.

THOMAS

Well, all these problems exist, unemployment, like I say the fuse is lit to blow up and this is because X number of things. Welfare is not giving the welfare recipient enough money, they are taking the man and tearing him away from his

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family and support his wife and kids and run him out of the house so it is just a whole lot of things that cause this and I think the political structure mostly everything in the city of Chicago is political tied anyway.

Moderator

Okay. Ladies and gentlemen, our guest ERNEST THOMAS, our telephone number 847-2602. We're going to stop here for a short message.

(Commercial)

Moderator

Well, we are back with you ladies and gentlemen.
WESLEY SOUTH is your host. Our guest ERNEST
THOMAS and our telephone number 847-2602.
Let's go and see what some of our listeners
have to ask you.
This is the Hot Line.

First Speaker


Hello Mr. SOUTH.

Moderator

Yes.

First Speaker

This is EARL YOUNG. I haven't caught all of
your program but I did catch a portion of it
for your interview with the Deacons and I
would like to say with all due respect to the
Deacons and any constructive approach they
may have to solving the situations and many
problems that we are having in Chicago I do
hope that if they have the chance to meet with
city officials that they will make it clear
that they do not represent the Negro population
as a whole because judging from the appearance
that they seem to be giving on the program I
for one would not want to be represented by them.
Thank you.



Moderator

Thank you for your call.

THOMAS

Thank you sir.

Moderator

This is the Hot Line.

Second Speaker

Hello.

Moderator

Yes, may we have your question.

Second Speaker

Mr. THOMAS, did I hear you say that you are expecting from ten to fifteen thousand Deacons in the city of Chicago very shortly.

THOMAS

Yes, in the next three months.

Second Speaker

How are they going to live? Will they be working on jobs or will they bring money enough to support themselves?

THOMAS

Well, the organization will worry about that.

Second Speaker

You say that you are not going to participate in demonstrations and you are not going to offer any...

THOMAS

Now I said. Wait a minute. I think you misinterpreted me. I said we as an organization was not too concerned about demonstrating in the streets.

Second Speaker

Yes, and I inferred from your conversation that you are not going to offer any armed

resistance to the police, so I would like to know what you would describe as the exact function of the Deacons in Chicago.

THOMAS

Well, we would probably be pretty busy telling a man the problems, and I think by telling him the problem and pointing to the problem and the street groups can more or less demonstrate around them if they like.

Second Speaker

I would like to ask you one more question. Will the Deacons participate in any political campaigns while they are here?

THOMAS

Sure we will participate in political campaigns while we are here.

Second Speaker

Here is one more thing. This is the last question. What sort of success have you had in recruiting people from the city of Chicago?

THOMAS

Well, as I say we have somewhere around 455 now and I consider that from the time we have had to work with them I figure it's very successful.

Second Speaker

That is since you had your office open for three weeks.



THOMAS

No. We have been in the city of Chicago for the last seven months but I've been off and on in the city.

Second Speaker

Okay, well, thank you very much.

Moderator

Thanks for calling.

Where is your office located?

THOMAS

1230 South Pulaski.

Moderator

Let's get back to the telephone.

This is the Hot Line.

Third Speaker

Hello. Mr. THOMAS please.

Moderator

Go right ahead.

Third Speaker


Mr. THOMAS, I understand you to say that you are going to point up the problems to the man. Aren't the problems already pointed up? I mean, aren't they aware of the problems now?

THOMAS

I think I made that statement that the man knows more about the problem than I and you put together.

Third Speaker

Why do you need fifteen thousand other people in here to crowd the situation that we now have to point up a problem that is already self-evident?



THOMAS

because I'll tell you why. Because as I say we're not one of the nonviolent groups and we don't think that we are not in the city to get hurt or beat.

Third Speaker

To incite a riot?

THOMAS

Pardon?

Third Speaker

You here to incite a riot?

THOMAS

If a riot occurs it will occur on its own. We are not here to incite a riot but then also we are not intending to be intimidated and beat by anyone and if you know the gentleman that's running out on the south side that HERBERT (phonetic), the man that came in his office and shot him up. Now we don't intend to have that either.

Third Speaker

But that was not the man. That was the colored man.

THOMAS

The colored man.

Third Speaker

Yes, he was shot by a Negro.

THOMAS

Well, you know you white people can put Negroes up to do things too. We have some black people with black skin that's white, you know. And when I see that happen that's a weak-minded black man.

Third Speaker

Yes, well another thing you spoke of the slums and the rats. Who creates the slums?

THOMAS

Who creates the slums?

Third Speaker

Yes.

THOMAS

The people.

Third Speaker

The people, right. So if the Negroes create their own slums...

THOMAS

No. When they move into an area that's 35 to 40 years old, they never moved into a ghetto or a large community of 40 or 50 blocks of new housing like white developments goes up.

Moderator

You don't mean that to be true in Chicago.

You're talking about in some areas.

THOMAS

In some areas of Chicago, that is right.

In the ghettos is what I'm speaking of.

Third Speaker

Negroes have moved in Chicago into brand new houses and have created slums right in their present house. They move into old housing that has been kept clean in spite of the age and dirty it. They steal light bulbs out of their own community, they write on the walls. Do we blame the white man for this?

THOMAS

Well, you see where the responsibility comes is if the man don't make enough money...

Third Speaker

Shouldn't this be taken up with the Negro?

THOMAS

Pardon?

Third Speaker

If they are creating their own problems.

THOMAS

Well, do you want me to answer it or I'll listen to you?

Third Speaker

I want you to answer it.

THOMAS

Well, now you see when a man do not have a decent job, because the only reason he don't have a decent job is that he is black. And all of this perpetuate the whole situation to make it be like it is. Here a man. He is worried how he is going to make another buck and you worried about whether you going to paint your house this week or next week or what color you going to change it. And he don't even see where he can get any paint, you see. And these are the problems that exist to create a slum. Then you bring in all the slum buildings that are supposed to really be torn down and the city inspectors come by and they

check the building and they flip him a buck,
and they go head on. The building go on and
the next minute it is a fire trap and it kills
fifteen or twenty kids in the buildings.

Third Speaker

Well, what about the housing that the
Negroes buy and they in turn rent to the
Negroes and the Negroes go about destroying
the properties that they are renting from
Negroes. Do they blame the white man for that?

THOMAS

Well, I observe by what you are saying I'm
quite sure you are caucasian.

Third Speaker

Oh, I'm quite black.

THOMAS

Well, you are caucasian minded, so when I say
that I don't mean the pigments of your skin.
We have a lot of black people that more or less
white/black and they don't understand the
problems of their own race. And I am quite
sure you fall into this category that you don't
understand your own fellow (inaudible).

Third Speaker

I think we're using black as an excuse.

THOMAS

Well, if you show me any black man in America or
black woman in America that is free then I'll
give up.

Third Speaker

Well, being free has nothing to do with being clean

THOMAS

Whether you got two million dollars or two hundred million dollars A black man with two hundred million dollars is not free
Pardon?

Third Speaker

Being free has nothing to do with being clean

THOMAS

Sure it does You think the troops in Viet Nam is clean?

Third Speaker

Well, we're not speaking of Viet Nam

THOMAS

No, but I'm saying do you think they're clean (inaudible)

Third Speaker

We're not speaking of Viet Nam because the Deacons did not go to Viet Nam they came to Chicago

THOMAS

We have some in Viet Nam too For your information

Third Speaker

Well, yes, I heard that about Viet Nam But what I'm saying the problem here is Chicago and what we want to do is make the living conditions in Chicago



THOMAS

Well, we are striving for the conditions of the whole U S We are not just concerned just with Chicago I want to be able to go to New York, anywhere else We are not just concerned with just Chicago because I have some sixty seventy chapters and I am concerned about what is going on in all these seventy different places And this is my concern Now your concern might be just right here in Chicago, but mine's not Well, since you are here in Chicago don't you think part of the program could be geared toward helping the black man help himself?

Third Speaker

THOMAS

That's true

Third Speaker

I mean like not only fighting for your rights And one of those ways is to find himself and to be a man And we cannot find ourselves and be a man by letting you whip me side the head

THOMAS

Third Speaker

Now everybody isn't whipped side the head

THOMAS

Well, you whip one way or the other or you whip side the head or you whip mentally

Either way you whipped

THOMAS

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Either way you whipped

Third Speaker

So what do we do? Do we go through physical violence or do we try to alleviate the problems that create the situation?

THOMAS

Well, when you go to try to deal with the problem that creates the situation then that brings on violence because the man never wants go give any ground You understand? Why, you think you never seen the civil rights people get their heads whipped down South?

Third Speaker

Oh, yes

THOMAS

You never seen them get arrested in Chicago?

Pardon?

Third Speaker

I've never been in the South but they have had heads whipped in other areas other than the South

THOMAS


Right Have you heard of police brutality in Chicago?

Third Speaker

Yes, there's police brutality in Chicago but what I'm speaking of is the fact that there are more areas to work than just the violence

Moderator

So you would bypass the court and we'll take care of this, is this what the Deacons are saying?



THOMAS

No We are not saying that, but I think the lady got mixed up for when we as an organization was not intending to spend a fortune going through the courts when the one Federal law says you have the right to picket to lawful assembly and all this and then the city official comes in and arrests you and you go through courts, city courts

Moderator

You say you are not going to demonstrate

THOMAS

No, we are not going to get out there doing that

Moderator

We have to cut you off here man We have a couple commercials coming up Thank you for calling Good night

Our telephone number 847-2602

(Commercial)

Moderator

This is the Hot Line

Fourth Speaker

Yes, Mr SOUTH What is your guest, Mr THOMAS?

Moderator

Yes, ERNEST THOMAS

Fourth Speaker

Is he on? Well, Mr THOMAS

THOMAS

Yes sir

Fourth Speaker

You said that you were asked to come here
Would you mind explaining who asked you to
come here?

THOMAS

No, I don't think it is necessary to answer you

Fourth Speaker

It is none of my business

THOMAS

Pardon?

Fourth Speaker

You say you don't think it is none of my business?

THOMAS

I say I don't think it is necessary for me to answer that

Fourth Speaker

I don't see why

Moderator

This man lives here He is a Negro you come here to help him

Fourth Speaker

Come here to help you do what

Moderator

Sir, he has come here to help you I would say too I would say it's your business to know

Fourth Speaker

I am a Negro

Moderator

That's what I say

Fourth Speaker

Yes, and that's why I ask you

Moderator

I know the NAACP say they didn't ask you
The Urban League say they didn't ask you

THOMAS

I don't mean established groups such like that
These are various people and from small groups

Moderator

I know churches have said they didn't ask you to come in

THOMAS

Yes, like I say we are not going to disclose who invited us in

Moderator

Is there any reason? I mean ~~is~~ this a secret organization?

THOMAS

Not an organization We got our signs up We're here But I'm speaking of who invited us And this have a tendency to get the people that invited us into a bind because they do work for the power structure

Moderator

You would say that someone invited you in

THOMAS

A lot of people, yes

Fourth Speaker

Would you explain who the lot of people are Can't you give me some

THOMAS


I thought I explained this to you Say if you worked for the mayor and your name was on there would you want me to give that name out?

Fourth Speaker

Listen, we have a lot of groups here In other words we have got too many groups here

THOMAS

No, we never have too many because we haven't solved the problem Meantime whether we've got too many



Fourth Speaker

Will you listen to me You know you say it again that you was going to bring in about fifteen thousand Deacons Now you know you ain't got no fifteen thousand Deacons There ain't an organization among the Negroes today got fifteen thousand Negroes in it Wait three months and call me back and say that

THOMAS

Fourth Speaker

Wait three months Look I've been here in Chicago long before you were born

THOMAS

Well, we're not arguing that point

Fourth Speaker

And you say you've been here six months

THOMAS

Yes, six to seven months off and on

Fourth Speaker

Now you don't know what's going on in Chicago no more than what somebody tell you

THOMAS

Well, I don't see In other words you saying I can't see the problem

Fourth Speaker

Wait a minute You going to hear me now We do not want no pistol packing Deacons here because we get along without a riot and you know you can't accomplish nothing in no boisterous way and I don't like your attitude You spoke about the man looking in the store at the ham Don't you know that's a match for a riot? Don't you know that?

THOMAS

Pardon?

Fourth Speaker

Huh?

Moderator

He said don't you know that your statement of the hungry man looking at a ham in the store is a match for a riot,

THOMAS

Well then I can't help that

Fourth Speaker

Yes you can help that by not speaking and things And here's another thing I want to tell you Any time the groups get together like that you've been you see we are American citizens

THOMAS

That's right

Fourth Speaker

Don't deal just on black, black and white, black and white Don't you know what you're doing? You just building up more hatred between the two races

THOMAS

I'm not striving for love We're striving for respect for one another

Fourth Speaker

We don't want no pistol packing Deacons here

THOMAS

Well, we didn't say we was pistol packing

Fourth Speaker

I'm a Negro myself, and I'm going to tell you so far as I'm concerned you should never have come here

THOMAS

Fourth Speaker

Well, you are entitled to our opinion
Then you was talking about the police department
and all such as that We don't need you to
come here You don't know nothing about no
ghettos or no slums or nothing like that You
ain't been here long enough to know
Oh, that's no difference

THOMAS

Fourth Speaker

I've been here forty some odd years and don't
know all about it

THOMAS

It's no different here than New York, Chicago,
Los Angeles, no where

Fourth Speaker

Moderator

Speak a little louder please
He said no difference here than New York or
Chicago At New York, Philadelphia, other places

THOMAS

Moderator

Fourth Speaker

Moderator

That's right It's no different

Okay Thank you for calling sir

Okay

Good night

This is the Hot Line

Fifth Speaker

Moderator

Fifth Speaker

Yes WESLEY SOUTH told me to call

Speaking

I would like to talk with a Mr THOMAS



Moderator

Who is this - did you say I told you to call?

Go right ahead

Fifth Speaker

Yes, my name is Mr OVERTON

Moderator

Well, he said I told him to call, go right ahead

Fifth Speaker

Yes, am I talking with Mr THOMAS?

THOMAS

Yes you are

Fifth Speaker


Well, here's what I would like to bring out
I've been listening to your program very long
here and I want to You know, I'm not
condemning you for being here and I'm not
condoning you, but I want to say some of the
things that's going on that you're speaking of
really, actually happening here I am living
in a slum which you called and I see a lot of
things and one way or the other it looks like
its something going to be happening that's not
going to be right

THOMAS

That's true

Fifth Speaker

Far as the explosion Because I'll tell you
what goes on here, see A lot of times these guys
from suburbs and what have you they come around
They'll be looking for prostitutes and first one



thing and another And it has been called to the
police department's attention and everything,
and nothing's really been done about it you see
And so what else can you do about it? I would
really like for some of the listeners to give
their opinion

Moderator

Would you and I know each other, sir? I'm
trying to rack my brain for someone by the
name of OVERTON

Fifth Speaker

Yes, you do

Moderator

Okay Thanks for calling

Our telephone number 847-2602

(Commercial)

This is the Hot Line

Sixth Speaker

I would like to address a remark or two to
Mr THOMAS Mr THOMAS, I'm white and I've
been struggling for integration and against
segregation and for civil rights for probably
more than you have years In other words before
you were born, and I just wonder why it is you
want to exclude white people from your organizati

THOMAS

You say why?

Moderator

Yes, why

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THOMAS

Sixth Speaker

Well, for the simple reason

That I've earned it You know I've gone through a lot in the last 30 years or so Ever since the days of the Scottsberg (phonetic) case You'll defend white civil rights workers, won't you?

THOMAS

Sixth Speaker

Sure, certainly

Well, why don't you let them participate in your organization too?

THOMAS

Wait a minute It's just like the Jews having a Jewish organization that they only let Jews in and just like the White Citizens Council only let white people in the John Birchers only let white people in I could name you so many groups that don't have anything but whites

Sixth Speaker

You are mistaken about many of those organizations because most organizations have dropped their bars

THOMAS

I don't know of any blacks in the Ku Klux Klan or the Minutemen or the Birchers

Moderator

Are you comparing yourself to the Ku Klux Klan?

- 1 -

THOMAS

No It's just being a black organization, and nothing wrong with being a black organization

Sixth Speaker

No, but you say that the purpose of your organization is to defend the rights of the Negro, to work for his dignity I approve of these aims, generally speaking, although I don't know about the pistol packing part But suppose a white person was just as much interested as you in defending the dignity and the rights of the Negro people Why should he be barred from a group like that?

Moderator

And before you answer I would like to ask you this question A moment ago you said to a woman that the pigmentation of her skin may have been That she was white on the inside but her skin was dark What about a person being

THOMAS

White and dark inside?

Moderator

Yes

THOMAS

Well, that's true I accept this fact But also

Sixth Speaker

You know how many white civil rights workers have been killed in the South?

THOMAS

Pardon?

Sixth Speaker

You know how many whites have been killed in the South

THOMAS

True

Sixth Speaker

People who have gone in there fighting against segregation and for civil rights

THOMAS

And we've protected more white civil rights workers than we did black civil rights workers, but anyone that even was down South and ran across any of the Deacons or happen to know me personally know that I'm a pretty nice fellow to meet but when we hold our membership this is what it is We have a lot of whites that we work with

Sixth Speaker

But when you treat white civil rights workers and people who are on your side whose skin happen to be white, when you treat them as if they are the enemy and they can't belong to your organization then you're giving a lot of fuel to the fire then



NO T-1 advised that from June 24 1966 to June 27 1966 ERNEST THOMAS was seen with the march from Memphis Tennessee to Jackson Mississippi He was continuing his role as head of the Deacons of Defense and Justice (DDJ) and was providing protection for the members of the march On Friday afternoon and evening he was in Canton Mississippi That evening he had an argument with other leaders of the march THOMAS maintained that the march should go back to the school ground where they had been stopped from pitching their tents and set their tents up there that night Others believed that since they had conducted a rally on the school ground this gave them enough of a victory and that they should not stir up any more trouble It was stated that the tents were in Tougaloo Mississippi in any case and it would not be possible to set them up in Canton that night Finally an agreement was reached by the leaders that if they argued among themselves this would create a lot of adverse publicity for their cause and they should attempt to stick together despite their differences The matter was then dropped and the members of the march were taken to Tougaloo Mississippi, where they spent the night

All during that Friday night and Saturday morning ERNEST THOMAS set up and maintained security around the camp He would not let any reporters into the camp that night He stated that all of the reporters had citizens band radios in their cars and they could possibly alert the Klan to what defenses were around the camp and what the activities were in the camp

THOMAS was assisted in his activities to protect the marchers by three other groups from Chicago In total there were six cars and one school bus known to be with the march from Chicago The three groups present from Chicago were the Devil s Disciples the Vice Lords and

the Blackstone Rangers The head of the Devil's Disciples was a man who used the nickname of Hot-Shot His second lieutenant was a man who used the nickname of SATAN This group reportedly numbered about thirty and they were all supposedly armed although no arms were actually seen The leaders indicated that they were heavily armed and ready for trouble The head of the Vice Lords was a man who used the nickname of PEPPER This was supposedly the nickname that he used around Chicago but he was known to the members of his group by the name of DUCK It is believed that this man's real name is JAMES HARRIS and he lives at 1232 Rolin Chicago Illinois This group also numbered about thirty and were also supposedly heavily armed It is believed that the above two groups came to Mississippi in the same school bus The Blackstone Rangers came by car Some of them arrived in Mississippi on Saturday June 25 1966 The leader of this group was a man by the name of GENE His second lieutenant was RANDOLPH WHEATON 1511 West 63rd Street Chicago Illinois LOUIS WATERS 4500 Cottage Street Chicago Illinois and AUSTIN RUCKER 5402 Woodlawn Chicago Illinois are also members of this group During the time the Blackstone Rangers were in Mississippi they used the car of RANDOLPH WHEATON which is a tan colored Baracuda with an unknown Illinois license number THOMAS exerted considerable control and influence over these groups while they were in Mississippi but it is not known if they are members of the DDJ

In addition to the above named groups from Chicago members of the Bogalusa Louisiana Voters League and the Bogalusa Louisiana chapter of the DDJ were present There were eight to ten members of the Bogalusa Louisiana chapter of the DDJ in Mississippi Those recognized were CHARLIE SIMS HENRY AUSTIN and J T WYATT On Sunday June 26 1966 CHARLIE SIMS rode all the way from Tougaloo Mississippi, to Jackson Mississippi on the truck with JAMES MEREDITH to protect him It is known that CHARLIE SIMS was carrying a gun at that time

- 54 -

CHARLIE SIMS and ERNEST THOMAS had an argument while they were together in Mississippi. Thomas accused Sims of going out of the state of Louisiana and attempting to set up DDJ chapters and collecting money on his own. Thomas told Sims that no one could set up DDJ chapters but Thomas and Sims would have to stop this type activity or he would be stopped. It was learned that last year while all of the trouble was occurring in Bogalusa, Louisiana, Charlie Sims traveled around the country collecting money for the DDJ in Bogalusa. During the course of his travels, he met May Mallory of New York City. May Mallory lives at 11029 Western Street, Apartment 12E, New York, New York. After Sims returned to Bogalusa, he sent Henry Austin to New York to see May Mallory. Austin went to New York and gave a speech which May Mallory taped in her apartment. May Mallory was then supposed to send or sell this speech to Cuba. Austin went back to New York to make a second speech for May Mallory sometime later. While Thomas and Sims were arguing, Sims asked Austin why he had gone back to New York the second time. Austin stated that Sims had told him to. Sims denied this. At that point, the argument ended.

Sims stated that during all of the trouble in Bogalusa, Louisiana, last year, a man named Lomax from Los Angeles, California, came to Bogalusa and gave Sims \$800.00 and gave \$1700.00 to the Bogalusa Civic League. A discussion of money followed at this point, and Thomas indicated that he had \$800.00 with him at this time. Thomas also stated that he had been given \$600.00 by the football player Jimmie Brown to come to Mississippi and protect the marchers. Thomas advised that he has been setting up DDJ chapters and he charges \$25.00 per member to join the DDJ. In addition, he stated that he charges a certain percentage of the dues collected by each chapter of the DDJ. Thomas stated that he handles only his salary of the money coming into his organization. He has a man working as treasurer who is also on salary. This man,

working as treasurer, who is also salary handles all of the money except THOMAS salary THOMAS stated that shortly all of the officers would be on salary but he could not afford that yet. He said that there would be a lot of money coming into the organization in August and then all of the officers would go on salary. THOMAS said that he did not want any communist money because they would then expect to run the organization and he would also be branded a communist.

THOMAS stated that he had DDJ chapters in Evanston Illinois Chicago Illinois Washington D C and Cleveland Ohio. Three members of the DDJ chapter in Evanston were in Mississippi. The head of the Evanston chapter is a man called AGWUH CHI-SIRROH 1606 Darrow Avenue Evanston Illinois home telephone 869-9264 and office phone 869-8306. The other two members present were BOB WINNELSH 3806 South Parkway telephone 643-8279 and BANNATT JOHNSON 909 Gray Avenue Evanston Illinois telephone 869-8889. These men were armed and THOMAS fixed the gun carried by the leader when he realized it was jammed. THOMAS carries tools in the truck of his car he uses to work on firearms.

ERNEST THOMAS has an office in Chicago Illinois and it is at 1236 Pulaski Street Chicago Illinois.

THOMAS related that he had been thinking of plans which could be used to break down white supremacy and get the Negro cause forward. He stated that it would be necessary to kill a few white people especially policemen to break the white supremacy. In the process a few Negroes may die but that is the price to be paid. THOMAS also said that it will be necessary to kill a few Uncle Tom Negroes in order to get the Negro people moving. THOMAS considers Uncle Tom Negroes the same as white people. THOMAS said that he had been thinking of a plan where five or six Negroes ride in a car together. All except the driver hide in the car. The driver then speeds until he is stopped by a policeman. The policeman would be shot or attacked by the Negroes in the car. He is then

left on the road when the car drives on THOMAS also said that Governor JOHNSON of Mississippi and Governor WALLACE of Alabama should be assassinated THOMAS stated that there would be a riot possibly in Chicago this summer He said there would be a riot in Chicago because Mayor DALEY had not been making any concessions to the demands of the Negroes in that city THOMAS mentioned the date of August 4, 1966 in connection with a riot in Chicago, but it is not known if he is planning any demonstrations or activity on that date

DDJ ASSOCIATIONS WITH SUBVERSIVE GROUPS

NO T-2 advised on March 23, 1966 that ERNEST THOMAS, Vice President of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Incorporated, from Jonesboro, Louisiana will speak at Detroit, Michigan, on April 1, 1966, at a forum sponsored by the Friday Night Socialist Forum which will be held at 3737 Woodward Avenue Detroit, Michigan

The source advised that some of the proceeds derived from this affair would be utilized to assist the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Incorporated, in connection with their activities in the Louisiana area

NO T-3 on April 4, 1966 advised that ERNEST THOMAS, Vice President of the Deacons of Defense and Justice Incorporated, from Jonesboro, Louisiana, spoke in Detroit, Michigan, on April 1, 1966, at a forum sponsored by the Friday Night Socialist Forum which was held at 3737 Woodward Avenue Detroit, Michigan

NO T-3 advised that THOMAS was the featured speaker at this forum and spoke for approximately one hour. According to NO T-3, approximately 60 to 70 individuals, the majority of whom were Negro, were in attendance at this forum

THOMAS, during his talk, indicated that by the summer of 1966, there will be groups of Deacons in every community in both the North and South. THOMAS indicated that the headquarters of the Deacons is located in Chicago and that the Deacons also receive their training in Chicago before being dispatched to various cities throughout the United States to form Deacon clubs

THOMAS indicated, at the present time, that the Deacons are directly in need of funds and that the Deacons, in order to obtain these funds, plan on putting pressure on rich Negroes. THOMAS indicated, during his talk, if the white power structure in the United States does not maintain law and order, then the Deacons plan to take law and order into their own hands

He stated that the Deacons would deal in a harsh manner with any informants of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) or Central Intelligence Agency within their organization and plan on utilizing all their resources in an effort to get Negro citizens to vote in the forthcoming elections throughout the United States

THOMAS indicated that his organization was protecting civil rights workers in the South and preventing anyone from harming these civil rights workers while engaged in their activities. THOMAS discussed the recent rioting in the Watts area of Los Angeles, California, and that which took place during the summer of 1965. He indicated it was significant that in the recent rioting which took place in the Watts area that many of the individuals involved were armed with rifles and other weapons, whereas during the summer of 1965, very few of the Negroes were armed.

NO T-3 advised that after THOMAS' talk a collection was taken up to assist the Deacons in their future activities. According to source, approximately \$70 was collected and turned over to THOMAS for financial assistance to the Deacons.

ACTIVITIES OF KNOWN OR ALLEGED CHAPTERS OF THE DDJ

New Orleans, Louisiana, chapter

AUBREY WOODS, President, Deacons for Defense and Justice, New Orleans, Louisiana, was contacted on April 14 1966, by SA FREDERICK J WALLACE and SA EDWARD J CARNEY JR at Woods' C & E Restaurant, 1900 Jackson Avenue, New Orleans.

WOODS advised he continues to serve as President of the New Orleans Chapter of the Deacons and stated that the chapter holds monthly meetings and that an executive meeting is normally held on a weekly basis. He said that while the chapter has a letter of approval from the parent chapter in Jonesboro, Louisiana, he prefers to regard the Orleans Chapter as an independent entity.

WOODS said that the New Orleans Chapter does not operate under the instructions and by-laws of the parent chapter in Jonesboro and was primarily formed in New Orleans for the purpose of furthering needs of the Negroes in connection with the voter registration and employment along legal lines.

WOODS declined to furnish the identities of any members or the total membership of the chapter and said that this was a policy that had always been followed from the beginning. He said that if any member cares to disclose his identity as a Deacon, there is no objection to this.

WOODS said that the Deacons in New Orleans do not wear any uniforms or possess any equipment and that they are not encouraged to obtain firearms, but are only told what the legal requirements are in relation to firearms. He also said that his chapter has never been asked to assist other Deacons throughout Louisiana or out of the State of Louisiana. He said that he does not regard the Deacons as a guard outfit and that there are no plans for the New Orleans Deacons to participate in any racial activity in Louisiana, but that he himself, has been to Bogalusa from time to time to consult with the Deacons in that community. WOODS declined to furnish any information concerning his contacts with the Deacons in Bogalusa.

Homer, Louisiana, Chapter

NO T-4 advised on March 29, 1966 that a meeting of the DDJ was held in Homer, Louisiana, on the evening of March 8, 1966 and that the following individuals were present:

GEORGE DODD, JR. President
JOE LESTER GREEN Financial Secretary
WILL JAMES MORRIS
GEORGE LEWIS
FRED LEWIS
OTHO LEWIS
ROY SMITH

NO T-4 stated that at this meeting the Poverty Program in the Homer area was discussed.

NO T-4 said that there was also a meeting of the DDJ in Homer on March 22, 1966 and that the following individuals were present:

NO 157-3290
EJC jmp

HARVEY HOUSTON, Athens, Louisiana, new member
VERTIS MERRITT, Homer, Louisiana new member
OTHO LEWIS
FRED LEWIS
GEORGE LEWIS
KENNETH BANKS
WILLY JAMES MORRIS
GEORGE DODD, JR
JOE LESTER GREEN
ROY SMITH

NO T-4 said that the DDJ in Homer, Louisiana does not possess any firearms and that there are no plans to obtain any firearms

NO T-4 reported on April 29 1966 that a meeting of the DDJ chapter at Homer, Louisiana was not held on the night of April 12 1966 as scheduled because the members were too busy to attend NO T-4 advised that a scheduled meeting for April 27, 1966 was canceled because no one showed up for this meeting

NO T-4 stated that the DDJ chapter at Homer does not possess any guns or any other weapons and that there are no plans to purchase weapons

Minden, Louisiana, Chapter

HENRY L RICHARDSON, Vice President, DDJ, Minden, Louisiana, on March 29, 1966, advised that meetings of the Minden chapter of the DDJ were held on March 8, 1966, March 15 1966, and March 22 1966 RICHARDSON said that there were about 12 members present at each meeting, including the following individuals

W L CUNNINGHAM
SAM HAMPTON
RAYMOND MORRIS
SAM GREEN
DAVE RALPH
JAMES HARPER
HENRY FLOURNOY

RICHARDSON advised that discussion at the meeting centered around duties of the Deacons to assist law enforcement officers by taking down the license numbers of any vehicles engaged in harassment of civil rights workers

RICHARDSON said that the DDJ chapter at Minden has not purchased any firearms and has no plans to purchase any firearms

RICHARDSON stated that while he himself has not been able to attend meetings of the DDJ chapter at Minden recently, he is aware that meetings were held on April 5, 1966 April 12, 1966; April 19, 1966, and April 26, 1966. He said that he has determined that there were about 10 to 12 members present at each meeting and that there was not much discussed at any of the meetings. He stated that this chapter does not own any guns or any other weapons

W L CUNNINGHAM, President DDJ, Minden Louisiana Chapter, advised on May 1, 1966 that the chapter had meetings on April 5, 1966, April 12, 1966, April 19, 1966 and April 26, 1966. He said there were about 12 men present at each meeting and that the racial situation in Minden was discussed. CUNNINGHAM noted that the racial situation in Minden is quiet and that he does not see any possibility of violence. He said that the Deacons do not possess any guns or other weapons

Jonesboro, Louisiana, Chapter

ELMO JACOBS a member of the DDJ at Jonesboro Louisiana, advised on April 6, 1966, that the DDJ in Jonesboro is a passive group and takes action only as a result of action. JACOBS stated that the local Negroes in Jonesboro are presently involved in court action against local officials and have met no resistance in their drives towards desegregation. JACOBS said there was no indication of increase in activity by the DDJ in Jonesboro in the foreseeable future

Alleged DDJ at Cleveland, Ohio

Sergeant JOHN J UNGVARY, Bureau of Special Investigation Cleveland Police Department on April 1 1966 arranged to show a clip of a television interview conducted by station WJW of one HARILLEL JONES, also known as ROBERT JONES to Special Agents ROBERT S BURGINS, JOHN J SULLIVAN, and THOMAS J O'HARA at the Cleveland Police Department

During this interview JONES stated that he is part of the Bandung World, which he described as being the non-white world which actually comprises the majority of the world JONES stated he considers himself as spokesman for the peasants and that he is a member of the DDJ which has 56 chapters throughout the United States JONES advised that he is vice president of the local Deacons group in Cleveland, Ohio He said that this group has high-powered rifles and that the rifles had been purchased in downtown department stores and from Army and Navy stores

Patrolman MAHON, Bureau of Special Investigation Cleveland, Ohio, Police Department, on June 20, 1966 advised that his department has no information indicating that the DDJ is either functioning or holding regular meetings in Cleveland Ohio

Bogalusa, Louisiana, Chapter

Mr MARTIN ROCHE Vice President Washington Bank and Trust Company Bogalusa Louisiana advised that their records contain the following information regarding the account of The Courtesy Club 904 Ruby Road Bogalusa Louisiana This account was reviewed from December 30 1965 to the present date

Mr ROCHE advised that the account was signed for by CHARLES SIMS ALBERT LEE DAVIS, and BERTRAN WYRE The maximum balance for the account was \$537 77 on December 30 1965 and the minimum was \$4 85 on April 8 1966 ROCHE noted that there were no cancelled checks available for this account and stated there was only one deposit for which he could furnish a source This was a check from the Chase Manhattan Bank New York City for \$100 on January 11 1966

Mr ROCHE stated that he has instructed the tellers at the bank to notify him in the event that a deposit of \$500 or more is made to this account

ROCHE stated that this account has not been very active of late and although he has no definite knowledge that The Courtesy Club has moved their account to another bank he indicated that there is a possibility

Mr ROCHE advised that these records would be available through issuance of a subpoena duces tecum and he himself would be the individual to contact in order to make them available

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On 4/15/66 at Bogalusa, Louisiana File # 157-3290 471
by SA MILTON R. GRAHAM sah Date dictated 4/21/66

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

On June 13, 1966, CHARLES SIMS, President Bogalusa Chapter Deacons of Defense and Justice (DDJ), advised that the DDJ of Bogalusa is planning to go to Baltimore, Maryland, sometime after the completion of the present MEREDITH march in Mississippi

SIMS stated that no specific date has been set for the trip to Baltimore but added that it is definitely planned. He further stated that the number of Deacons who will participate in this endeavor has not been decided upon at this time

Regarding current officers of the Bogalusa Chapter of the DDJ, SIMS advised that he is President, ROYAN BURRIS is Vice President, and ROBERT HICKS, in addition to being Vice President of the Bogalusa Voters League, is head of business relations for the Deacons

SIMS declined to furnish a membership list and indicated he would not do so at any time

Alleged DDJ Chapter in Washington, D C

An article appeared on page B-1 of the March 30, 1966, issue of The Washington Post and Times Herald a daily Washington, D C, newspaper captioned Bogalusa Unit Plans Move to D C, authored by WILLIAM RASPBERRY. A copy of the article is attached

The article by RASPBERRY indicated that the DDJ planned to establish a chapter in Washington, D C, and he questioned the plans for such a move. The article stated that according to JULIUS W HOBSON, militant leader of ACT and a prospective Deacon, the move to the area was due to increasing brutality on the part of police officers and the failure of officials to punish it. HOBSON, according to the article, said that the Deacons could probably recruit as many as 300 to 400 men in the Washington, D C area, and it was HOBSON's theory that Negroes must organize to strike back at brutal officers.

On March 30, 1966, JULIUS W HOBSON, Chairman, Associated Community Teams (ACT), Washington, D C Chapter advised the FBI as follows

WILLIAM RASPBERRY, writer of the article in the March 30, 1966 issue of The Washington Post wrote an article entirely misleading to the readers and appeared to present information obtained from **HOBSON** which was not true. **RASPBERRY** had attempted to interview **HOBSON** on approximately February 26, 1966, at which time **HOBSON** referred him to someone else.

HOBSON added that he personally demanded a public retraction by The Washington Post of the article, however he was granted the privilege of writing a Letter to the Editor with his comments which he was assured would be published on March 31 1966.

HOBSON emphatically stated that **DDJ** has no organization in Washington, D C , and has no plans to organize here. **HOBSON** stated he is not a member of the **DDJ**.

Alleged DDJ Chapters in Mississippi

MIKE HIGSON, Assistant Office Manager Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP) 507½ North Farish Street Jackson, Mississippi advised on April 13 1966 that the MFDP, to his knowledge, has no one in their organization who is a member of the Deacons of Defense and Justice (DDJ). He said the MFDP has been the center of the civil rights movement within the state of Mississippi for the past year along with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and there have been no attempts made to recruit chapters of the DDJ. To the best of his knowledge, there have been no members of the DDJ from Bogalusa, Homer, or Jonesboro, Louisiana, in Jackson for the past several months attempting to recruit members for the DDJ.

NO T-5 who is familiar with some phases of the DDJ advised on April 11, 1966, that no additional information has been received concerning forming chapters in the state of Mississippi since last contacted. The source advised that there are no chapters of the DDJ within the state of Mississippi. **NO T-5** advised that the NAACP within the state of Mississippi has refused to have any association with the DDJ in Louisiana and there is no one in the MFDP strong enough to form a chapter of the DDJ within the state of Mississippi.

NO T-6, who is familiar with some phases of the DDJ, advised on April 6, 1966 that he has traveled throughout the state of Mississippi on behalf of the civil rights movement and he has received no information that chapters have been organized within the state of Mississippi

NO T-7, who is familiar with some phases of the DDJ, was contacted on April 13 1966. He advised that there has been no information obtained concerning the existence of any DDJ chapters or actual members. NO T-7 advised that daily contact is had with negro and white civil rights workers

M B PIERCE, Chief of Detectives Jackson, Mississippi, Police Department, advised on April 22, 1966, he could furnish no pertinent information concerning the DDJ. He said that since the DDJ held a meeting at the Masonic Temple, Lynch Street, Jackson, on August 29 1965, there has been no other efforts, to his knowledge to recruit members. PIERCE stated that he has attempted to determine if the NAACP and the MFDP have recruited members of the DDJ for protection in the Jackson area, and he has been unable to substantiate by investigation any activity on behalf of the DDJ

CHARLES SNODGRASS, Administrative Assistant to the Chief of the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol (MHSP), advised on April 22 1966, he could furnish no pertinent information concerning the DDJ not previously furnished. He said there have been several racial situations occurring within the state of Mississippi the past several months, but investigation by his Department has disclosed no activity on behalf of the DDJ

Alleged DDJ Chapter in Chicago, Illinois

On May 25, 1966, Sergeant ED MC CLELLAN, Human Relations Section, Chicago, Illinois Police Department, advised the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) that the Deacons of Defense and Justice Incorporated (DDJ), recently opened an office at 1230 South Pulaski Road, Chicago, and the telephone number of the Chicago Office of the DDJ is 522-7706

ERNEST THOMAS, an organizer for the DDJ, reportedly is the individual who is responsible for organizing the Chicago chapter of the DDJ. THOMAS is in and out of Chicago frequently but is not known to have any permanent address in Chicago.

NO T-1 on June 16, 1966 stated that the DDJ is incorporated in the state of Louisiana only and had not filed papers to do business in any other state.

NO T-1 said that ERNEST THOMAS has been traveling around the United States calling himself the Regional Vice President and Northern Director of the DDJ and has claimed to set up DDJ chapters in several cities in the United States on a militant basis. NO T-1 said that these efforts on the part of THOMAS are reportedly entirely of his own volition and are not supported or condoned by the DDJ at Jonesboro, Louisiana.

NO T-1 pointed out that as far as he knows, the DDJ headquarters at Jonesboro, Louisiana, has never received any requests for charters from anywhere outside of the state of Louisiana and that such charters could not be issued outside the state if they were so requested.

MISCELLANEOUS

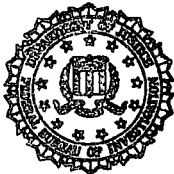
On April 19, 1966, a representative of Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Unit, U S Treasury Department, Los Angeles, California, advised that his source has been unable to obtain any information concerning the shipment of machine guns from the Czechoslovakian Firearms Manufacturer to the Deacons of Defense and Justice. His source said that he now feels that he received false information from the beginning and does not feel that this matter has any merit. His source said that he would continue to be alert for information reflecting upon this matter.

FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIALIST FORUM,
aka Militant Labor Forum

On May 3 1965, a source advised that the Forum is a paper organization set up by the Chicago Branch, Socialist Workers Party (CBSWP) Chicago, Illinois for Socialist Workers Party (SWP) members and sympathizers. Open meetings held under the auspices of this Forum are geared to be the activities that the SWP is pursuing at a particular time e g , unemployment election campaign, Cuba, segregation etc

SUZANNE BUCH, a CBSWP member is in charge of the Forum and schedules meetings under the name of the Forum in order to conceal the SWP sponsorship of same. The meetings of the Forum generally are held at Chicago SWP headquarters although the Forum, in the past has sponsored other affairs such as meetings socials and picnics held at other locations

The SWP has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450



In Reply Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New Orleans, Louisiana
July 21, 1966

Title DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE INC

Character RACIAL MATTERS

Reference Report of SA EDWARD J CARNEY JR
at New Orleans Louisiana dated
July 21 1966

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities
are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable
information in the past

NO T-1 is a source with whom insufficient contact
has been had to determine reliability of his
information

Th d um f h FBI d l an d h mm d l f h FBI I h no
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BI BALTO

FBI NEW ORLS

FOIA b 7 - D

6 45PM CST 7/15/66 URGENT RRR

TO BALTIMORE

FROM SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157 3290)

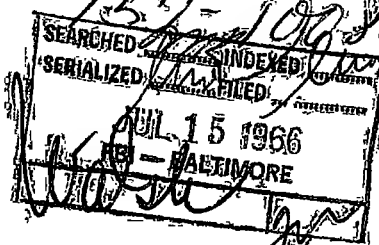
DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC 4 RM

ON JULY FOURTEEN,

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

HE PLANS TO GO TO BALTIMORE EITHER THIS WEEKEND OR
NEXT WEEKEND UPON ARRIVAL HE PLANS TO CONTACT THE
BALTIMORE OFFICE AND OFFER SERVICES FOIA b 7 - D WILL IDENTIFY
HIMSELF BY EITHER HIS NAME OR ALIAS FOIA b 7 - D
STATES MODE OF TRAVEL UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME
END PAGE ONE



Super Larrison
Advised 9:05

Plus duty Sra

PAGE TWO

FOIA b 7 - D

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

FOIA b 7 - D

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BA , MFK

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FBI NEW ORLS

6 45PM CST 7/15/66 URGENT RRR

TO BALTIMORE

FROM SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-3290)

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC RM

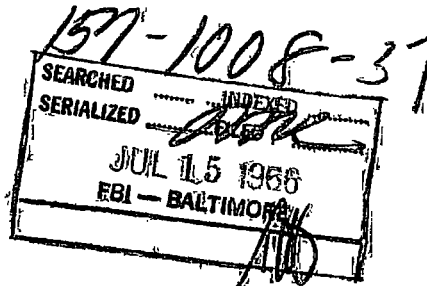
ON JULY FOURTEEN, [REDACTED]

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

HE PLANS TO GO TO BALTIMORE EITHER THIS WEEKEND OR
NEXT WEEKEND UPON ARRIVAL HE PLANS TO CONTACT THE
BALTIMORE OFFICE AND OFFER SERVICES [REDACTED] WILL IDENTIFY
HIMSELF BY EITHER HIS NAME OR ALIAS [REDACTED]
STATES MODE OF TRAVEL UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME

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PAGE TWO

FOIA b 7 - D

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PAGE THREE

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URGENT

7-3-66

RJS

TO: BALTIMORE (157-1008)

FROM: NEW ORLEANS (157-3290)

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE (DDJ), RM

REURTEL SEVEN THREE SIXTYSIX

INFORMATION REGARDING ERNEST THOMAS FORWARDED YOUR OFFICE BY
LHM JUNE THIRTY CAPTIONED AS ABOVE

RE FOIA b 6 POSSIBLY IDENTICAL WITH VICTIM NEW ORLEANS

ONE SEVEN THREE CASE IN NINETEEN SIXTYFOUR REGARDING COMPLAINT

INVOLVING DISCRIMINATION ON MONROE, LOUISIANA BUS LINE

FOIA b 6

DESCRIBED AS NEGRO FEMALE, FOURTEEN YEARS OLD IN NINETEEN SIXTYFOUR,

DOB

FOIA b 6

FIVE FEET FIVE INCHES ONE

THREE FIVE POUNDS, STUDENT SINGLE, NO ARRESTS ADMITTED NO

CONNECTION WITH DDJ LOCATED IN NEW ORLEANS FILES AND NO REPORTED
VIOLENCE POTENTIAL

RE BENNIE BRASS

IDENTICAL WITH BENNIE ROY BRASS, CORE TASK

FORCE WORKER IN MONROE LA, IN NINETEEN SIXTYFOUR, WHO IS

VICTIM IN NUMEROUS PUBLIC ACCOMODATION CASES IN NO DIVISION BRASS

WHO IS ACTIVE IN CIVIL RIGHTS MATTERS, HAS NO REPORTED CONNECTION

WITH DDJ AND NO REPORTED VIOLENCE POTENTIAL DESCRIBED AS NEGRO

MALE AGE TWENTY DOB ONE TWENTYEIGHT FORTY SIX AT MONROE, LA

SIX FEET ONE EIGHT ZERO POUNDS, HEAVY BUILD, ONE INCH CUT SCAR

RIGHT CHEEK BEGINNING AT NOSTRIL PRIOR ARREST BY MONROE PD FOR

CRIMINAL TRESSPASS, DISTURBING PEACE WHICH ARREST WAS OUTGROWTH OF

CIVIL RIGHTS TEST CASE BRASS SOPHOMORE STUDENT AT GRAMBLING

COLLEGE IN NINETEEN SIXTYSIX, ADDRESS MAIN STREET,

END PAGE ONE

157-1008-36

SEARCHED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INDEXED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SERIALIZED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FILED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
JUL 3 1966	
FBI BALTIMORE	

157-1008-

PAGE TWO

RE ~~DAVID LEE WHATELY~~ WHATELY, VOLUNTEER CORE WORKER, IS
VICTIM IN ~~SEVERAL~~ ONE SEVEN THREE AND FORTY FOUR CASES IN NO
DIVISION AND IS DESCRIBED AS NEGRO MALE DOB [REDACTED]

FOIA b 6

FOIA b 6

FIVE FEET EIGHT INCHES, ONE FORTY FIVE POUNDS,
STUDENT ATTENDING FERRIDAY HIGH SCHOOL IN NINETEEN SIXTY SIX NO
ARRESTS ADMITTED WHATELY WAS REPORTED TO BE VICE PRESIDENT
OF FERRIDAY FREEDOM MOVEMENT, FERRIDAY, LA., IN NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE
WHATELY S HOME SHOT INTO BY UNKNOWN PERSONS IN NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE
ON ONE THIRTY SIXTYSIX HOME IN WHICH WHATELY WAS LIVING WITH OTHER
CIVIL RIGHTS WORKER WAS INVOLVED IN ATTEMPTED BOMBING HOWEVER ONLY
DETONATOR OF BOMB EXPLODED AS DYNAMITE FAILED TO GO OFF

ON FOUR FIFTEEN SIXTYSIX A SOURCE WITH WHOM UNSUFFICIENT CONTACT
HAS BEEN HAD TO DETERMINE RELIABILITY ADVISED THAT WHATELY AND OTHER
CIVIL RIGHTS WORKERS IN FERRIDAY AREA WERE ATTENDING KARATE
CLASSES WHICH WERE TAUGHT BY A NEGRO MALE NAMES NAJA, WHO LIVED AT
THE WHATELY HOME. THIS TRAINING WAS SUPPOSEDLY TO PREVENT ANY HARM
TO THE PARTICIPANTS SHOULD TROUBLE DEVELOP

THIS SAME SOURCE ADVISED ON SIX TWENTYTHREE SIXTYSIX THAT
DAVID WHATELY, PRESIDENT OF FERRIDAY FREEDOM MOVEMENT HAS BEEN
CHOSEN BY CORE TO TAKE A TRIP TO USSR THIS SUMMER WHATELY
REPORTED TO BE LEAVING FOR RUSSIA ON ABOUT JULY NINE ACCORDING TO
SOURCE

WHATELY NOT KNOWN TO BE VIOLENT OR MEMBER OF DDJ

END

BA MEM

FBI BALTO

CL

IS 4:1PM EST URGENT 7-2-66 AWS

TO: DIRECTOR, NEW ORLEANS AND BALTIMORE
FROM JACKSON (157-3465)

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE (DDJ) RM

RE BALTIMORE TELETYPE TO BUREAU JULY TWO SIXTYSIX

M E FARMER, MHSP, ADVISED MISS LICENSE FORTY-FIVE D
NINE SEVEN TWO REGISTERED TO BOBBY CHINN, THREE TWENTY FIVE
OWEN STREET, CANTON, MISS VEHICLE DESCRIBED AS NINETEEN
SIXTY-SIX BEIGE OLDSMOBILE NINETY EIGHT JACKSON FILES DISCLOSE
C O CHINN, SR TWO TWENTY FIVE OWENS STREET CANTON, CIVIL
RIGHTS WORKER AT MISSISSIPPI FREEDOM DEMOCRATIC PARTY HEAD-
QUARTERS, CANTON, MISS , HAS DRIVEN VEHICLE ON OCCASIONS C O.
CHINN IN JACKSON FILE CAPTIONED UNSUBS SMOKE BOMB THROWN AT FRONT
OF MEDP HOUSE, CANTON MISS , SIX TWENTY-TWO SIXTYSIX LAST C O
CHINN, SR - VICTIM- CR=EL ; VRA NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE

CHINN ARRESTED BY CANTON PD JULY TWENTY TWO LAST AND CHARGED
WITH ASSAULT AND BATTERY WITH A PISTOL WITH INTENT TO KILL AND
MURDER C O CHINN DESCRIBED AS: NM DOB NINE-EIGHTEEN-NINETEEN,
POB, MADISON COUNTY, MISS , FIVE FEET NINE AND ONE HALF INCHES TALL
BLACK HAIR, BROWN EYES, THREE INCH CIRCULAR SCAR ON RIGHT CHEEK
EXTENDING FROM CORNER OF EYE TO MID CHEEK C O CHINN AND FAMILY
EXTREMELY ACTIVE IN CIVIL RIGHTS WORK

END

WA JPM

FBI WASH DC

BA KC KGW

FBI BALTO

NO WSW

FBI NEW ORLS

TU CL

*Patrolman Raymond McReary
Col. Batley office B.A. 100
+ 48 Paul W. Adams B.A. 100
Post Box address*

157-1008-35

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 2 1966	
FBI-BALTIMORE	

6:41PM CST URGENT 7-2-66 AWS

TO DIRECTOR NEW ORLEANS, AND BALTIMORE
FROM JACKSON (157-3465)

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE (DDJ) RM

RE BALTIMORE TELETYPE TO BUREAU JULY TWO SIXTYSIX

M E FARMER, MHSP, ADVISED MISS LICENSE FORTY-FIVE D
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OWEN STREET, CANTON, MISS VEHICLE DESCRIBED AS NINETEEN
SIXTY-SIX BEIGE OLDSMOBILE NINETY EIGHT JACKSON FILES DISCLOSE

C O CHINN, SR TWO TWENTY FIVE OWENS STREET, CANTON, CIVIL
RIGHTS WORKER AT MISSISSIPPI FREEDOM DEMOCRATIC PARTY HEAD-
QUARTERS, CANTON, MISS, HAS DRIVEN VEHICLE ON OCCASIONS C O
CHINN IN JACKSON FILE CAPTIONED UNSUBS. SMOKE BOMB THROWN AT FRONT
OF MFDP HOUSE, CANTON, MISS, SIX TWENTY TWO SIXTYSIX LAST C.O.
CHINN, SR - VICTIM, CR-EL VRA, NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE

CHINN ARRESTED BY CANTON PD JULY TWENTY TWO LAST AND CHARGED
WITH ASSAULT AND BATTERY WITH A PISTOL WITH INTENT TO KILL AND
MURDER C O CHINN DESCRIBED AS NM DOB NINE-EIGHTEEN-NINETEEN,
POB, MADISON COUNTY, MISS, FIVE FEET NINE AND ONE HALF INCHES TALL,
BLACK HAIR, BROWN EYES, THREE INCH CIRCULAR SCAR ON RIGHT CHEEK
EXTENDING FROM CORNER OF EYE TO MID CHEEK C O CHINN AND FAMILY
EXTREMELY ACTIVE IN CIVIL RIGHTS WORK

END

WA JPM

FBI WASH DC

BA KGW

FBI BALTO

NO WSW

FBI NEW ORLS

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157-1008-35

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, BALTIMORE

DATE 7/1/68

FROM : SA R W DAVIS

SUBJECT : CORE
RM

At 10 00 p m this date, Lt EURLICE, Baltimore County Police Bureau, telephonically advised that his department through Officer Charles Tenny, had received a message by phone from [REDACTED]

FOIA b 3 - 50 USC 3024 i 1 - Intelligence Sources and Methods

A colored male, ERNEST THOMAS, head of the Deacons for Defense of Justice is in Baltimore City and had issued the following statement "I am in Baltimore City to kill white policemen and a few negroes may have to die also. All Uncle Toms have to die" Plan of operation is to have 5 or 6 negroes hidden in his automobile and cause a small traffic violation and when stopped by police he and the other negroes will beat up and kill policemen [REDACTED]

FOIA b 3 - 50 USC 3024 i 1 - Intelligence Sources and Methods

National Core Convention at Baltimore Deacons for Defense and Justice (DDJ)

FBI, New Orleans advises that information indicates that Ernest THOMAS, head of DDJ for the U S with offices at 1236 Pulaski St, Chicago, Ill is at present in Baltimore for the Core Convention

Thomas has indicated to reliable sources that he is thinking of plans to be used to break down white supremacy THOMAS states that it will be necessary to kill a few white people especially policemen and in the process a few negroes may also die Thomas indicated it may be necessary to kill a few Uncle Toms THOMAS has devised a plan and is thinking of having 5 or 6 negroes in a car together with all but the driver hidden The driver will speed until he is stopped by

2 - File
RWD

157-1008

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Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

157-1008 34



-2-

the police The policeman will then be attacked and killed by all of the negroes THOMAS has been known to carry firearms and carries tools in the trunk of his car which are used to work on firearms Source-FBI Evaluation-B-2

The above information was telephonically furnished to Night Bureau Supervisor TOM SMITH, who advised he would call New Orleans for additional information as the Bureau had no record Baltimore also had no such information

At 11 10 P M SMITH telephonically advised that he had contacted the New Orleans Office of the FBI and instructed them to submit a teletype to Baltimore and the Bureau within the hour, furnishing all information in connection with this matter SMITH further stated that New Orleans advised they had submitted the information by Airtel and L H M

ASAC GAMBLE and SUPERVISOR GARRISON were both advised of the above events as they took place

10 84 2 071

FBI NEW ORLS

FBI BALTO

307PM EDST URGENT 7/3/66 WJH

TO NEW ORLEANS (157 3290)

FROM BALTIMORE (157-1003)

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE RM

RE NEW ORLEANS TEL JULY THREE

BALTIMORE PD ADVISED REVIEW OF REGISTRATIONS MOUNT
ROYAL HOTEL BALTIMORE REVEALED ERNEST THOMAS (FIRM) DDS,
PO BOX 472, JONESBORO (ILLEC) LA MISS

FOIA b 6

FOIA b 6

BENNIE BRASS MAIN ST GRAMBLING LA

DAVID LEE WHATLEY 301 SOUTH 5TH FERRIDAY, LOUISIANA
INDICES BA NEGATIVE OTHER THAN THOMAS SUTEL ANY PERTINENT INFO
PARTICULARLY CONNECTIONS WITH DDS AND INDICATION OF
POTENTIAL FOR VIOLENCE

END

NO PHJ

FBI NEW ORLS

SEARCHED
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157-1008-33

NO 6/22/66

FBI NEW ORLS

FBI BALTO

307PM EDST URGENT 7/3/66 WJH
TO NEW ORLEANS (157-3290)
FROM BALTIMORE (157-1008)

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE RM

RE NEW ORLEANS TEL JULY THREE

BALTIMORE PD ADVISED REVIEW OF REGISTRATIONS, MOUNT
ROYAL HOTEL BALTIMORE REVEALED: ERNEST THOMAS (FIRM) DDS,
PO BOX 472, JONESBORO (ILLEG) LA

FOIA b 6

FOIA b 6

BENNY BRASS, MAIN ST. GRAMBLING, LA.,
DAVID LEE WHATLEY, 301 SOUTH 5TH FERRIDAY, LOUISIANA
INDICES BA NEGATIVE OTHER THAN THOMAS SUTEL ANY PERTINENT INFO:
PARTICULARLY CONNECTIONS WITH DDS AND INDICATION OF
POTENTIAL FOR VIOLENCE

END

NO PHJ

FBI NEW ORLS

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157-1008-33

FBI WASH DC

FBI BALTO

4 15 4-05 PM EDST URGENT 7-2-66 PTK
TO DIRECTOR AND NEW ORLEANS AND JACKSON
FROM BALTIMORE 157-1008

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE (DDJ) RM

BAPD CONFIRMED TODAY THAT ERNEST THOMAS IS IN BA AND
DRIVING CHRYSLER SARATOGA, LA LICENSE FOURTEEN F - (FIRST
THREE DIGITS ONLY) THOMAS ACCOMPANIED BY CHARLES SIMMS WHO
IS DRIVING TAN OLDSMOBILE NINETY EIGHT, WITH MISS LICENSE
FORTY FIVE D NINE SEVEN TWO THEY ARE STAYING AT MT
ROYAL HOTEL, BA

BA FILES REFLECT SIMMS PRESIDENT OF BOGALUSA CHAPTER

DDJ

ADVISE IF THOMAS OWNS SUCH AN AUTOMOBILE AND FURNISH
COMPLETE NUMBER JACKSON CONFIRM MISS LICENSE FOR SIMMS FURNISH
ALL PERTINENT INFO INCLUDING DESCRIPTIVE DATA RE SIMMS ADVISE
OF OTHER MEMBERS OF DDJ WHO MAY BE ACCOMPANYING THOMAS AND SIMMS
AND FURNISH ALL DETAILS RE SUCH PERSONS

CONTACT ALL LOGICAL SOURCES AND DETERMINE PURPOSE OF DDJ
MEMBERS IN BALTIMORE

SUTEL.

END

JPM

FBI WASH DC

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157-1008-32

FBI BALTO

4-16 PM EDST URGENT 7-2-66 PTH

TO DIRECTOR AND NEW ORLEANS AND JACKSON
FROM BALTIMORE 157-1008

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE (DDJ) RM

BAPD CONFIRMED TODAY THAT ERNEST THOMAS IS IN BA AND
DRIVING CHRYSLER SARATOGA, LA LICENSE FOURTEEN F - (FIRST
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ROYAL HOTEL, BA

BA FILES REFLECT SIMMS PRESIDENT OF BOGALUSA CHAPTER
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AND FURNISH ALL DETAILS RE SUCH PERSONS

CONTACT ALL LOGICAL SOURCES AND DETERMINE PURPOSE OF DDJ
MEMBERS IN BALTIMORE

SUTEL

END

NO

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V TELETYPE URGENT

(P y)

Director AND
TO *SAC* NEW ORLEANS (157-3290) *+ Jackson*
FROM BALTIMORE (157-1008)

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE (DDJ) RM

BAPD CONFIRMED TODAY THAT ERNEST THOMAS IS IN BA AND
DRIVING CHRYSLER SARATOGA LA LICENSE FOURTEEN F - (FIRST
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FORTY FIVE D NINE SEVEN TWO THEY ARE STAYING AT MT ROYAL
HOTEL BA

BA FIRES REFLECT SIMMS PRESIDENT OF BOGALUSA CHAPTER

DDJ

advise
~~SIMMS~~ IF THOMAS OWNS SUCH AN AUTOMOBILE *JACKSON* *AND FURNISH COMPLETE* CONFIRM
MISS LICENSE FOR SIMMS FURNISH ALL PERTINENT INFO INCLUD-
ING DESCRIPTIVE DATA RE SIMMS ADVISE OF OTHER MEMBERS OF
DDJ WHO MAY BE ACCOMPANYING THOMAS AND SIMMS AND FURNISH
ALL DETAILS RE SUCH PERSONS

*Contact all logical sources and determine purpose
of DDJ members ~~present~~ in Baltimore*

MEG rc
(1)

SUTEL

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Spec 1 Agent in Charge

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TO NEW ORLEANS 157-3290

FROM BALTIMORE 157-1008

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE /DDJ/RM

RE URTEL SEVEN ONE LAST

SUTEL BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

RE ERNEST THOMAS

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FBI NEW ORLS

FBI BALTO

2116 AM EDT URGENT 7/2/66 TEC

TO NEW ORLEANS 157-3290

FROM BALTIMORE 157-1008

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, (DDJ) (RM)

REURTEL SEVEN ONE-LAST

SUTEL BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

RE ERNEST THOMAS

END

NO: WSW

FBI NEW ORLS

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157-1008-29

FBI NEW ORLEANS

10-46 PM CST URGENT 7-1-66 WSW

TO DIRECTOR AND BALTIMORE

FROM NEW ORLEANS 157-3290

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE /DDJ/RM

FOIA b 7 - D

WITH WHOM

INSUFFICIENT CONTACT HAS BEEN HAD TO DETERMINE RELIABILITY
ADVISED THAT ERNEST THOMAS, ~~see search report~~ HEAD OF THE /DDJ/ IN LOUISIANA,
MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS DURING THE RECENT MARCH FROM
MEMPHIS TO JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

THOMAS RELATED THAT HE HAD BEEN THINKING OF
PLANS WHICH COULD BE USED TO BREAK DOWN WHITE SUPREMACY
AND GET THE NEGRO CAUSE FORWARD HE STATED THAT IT WOULD BE
NECESSARY TO KILL A FEW WHITE PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY POLICEMEN,
TO BREAK THE WHITE SUPREMACY IN THE PROCESS, A FEW
NEGROES MAY DIE BUT THAT IS THE PRICE TO BE PAID
THOMAS ALSO SAID THAT IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO KILL A FEW
UNCLE TOM NEGROES IN ORDER TO GET THE NEGRO PEOPLE MOVING
THOMAS CONSIDERS UNCLE TOM NEGROES THE SAME AS WHITE
PEOPLE THOMAS SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN THINKING OF A PLAN
WHERE FIVE OR SIX NEGROES RIDE IN A CAR TOGETHER ALL
EXCEPT THE DRIVER HIDE IN THE CAR THE DRIVER THEN SPEEDS
UNTIL HE IS STOPPED BY A POLICEMAN THE POLICEMAN WOULD BE
END OF PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO

SHOT OR ATTACKED BY THE NEGROES IN THE CAR. HE IS THEN LEFT ON THE ROAD WHEN THE CAR DRIVES ON. THOMAS ALSO SAID THAT GOVERNOR JOHNSON OF MISSISSIPPI AND GOVERNOR WALLACE OF ALABAMA SHOULD BE ASSASSINATED. THOMAS STATED THAT THERE WOULD BE A RIOT, POSSIBLY, IN CHICAGO THIS SUMMER. HE SAID THERE WOULD BE A RIOT IN CHICAGO BECAUSE MAYOR DALEY HAD NOT BEEN MAKING ANY CONCESSIONS TO THE DEMANDS OF THE NEGROES IN THAT CITY. THOMAS MENTIONED THE DATE AS AUGUST FOUR, NINETEEN SIXTYSIX, IN CONNECTION WITH A RIOT IN CHICAGO BUT IT IS NOT KNOWN IF HE IS PLANNING ANY DEMONSTRATIONS OR ACTIVITY ON THAT DATE.

THE ABOVE INFORMATION HAS BEEN INCORPORATED IN AN LHM DATED JUNE THIRTY, NINETEEN SIXTYSIX AND FURNISHED TO THE BUREAU THIS DATE. BIRMINGHAM AND JACKSON OFFICES HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO NOTIFY APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES REGARDING THOMAS' COMMENTS REGARDING ASSASSINATION OF GOVERNORS JOHNSON AND WALLACE.

END OF PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

THOMAS REPORTEDLY ATTENDING NATIONAL CORE CONVENTION
BALTIMORE AT PRESENT TIME CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN
IN HANDLING THE ABOVE INFORMATION IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE
SOURCE

END AND ACK PLS

WA HFL

FBI WASH DC

BA REM

FBI BALTO

TU DISC

FBI NEW ORLS

10-16 PM CST URGENT 7-1-66 WSW

TO DIRECTOR AND BALTIMORE

FROM NEW ORLEANS 157-3290

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE /DDJ/RM

FOIA b 7 - D

WITH WHOM

INSUFFICIENT CONTACT HAS BEEN HAD TO DETERMINE RELIABILITY
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EXCEPT THE DRIVER HIDE IN THE CAR THE DRIVER THEN SPEEDS
UNTIL HE IS STOPPED BY A POLICEMAN THE POLICEMAN WOULD BE
END OF PAGE ONE

This document must be reclassified prior
to its release from Baltimore Division See
Classifying documents in Closed File Section
in Cabinet marked Reclassification Documents

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PAGE TWO

SHOT OR ATTACKED BY THE NEGROES IN THE CAR HE IS THEN
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FO GOVERNORS JOHNSON AND WALLACE
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BALTIMORE AT PRESENT TIME CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN
IN HANDLING THE ABOVE INFORMATION IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE
SOURCE

END AND ACK PLS

WA HFL

FBI WASH DC

BA REM

FBI BALTO

TU DISC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE NEW ORLEANS	OFFICE ORIGIN NEW ORLEANS	DATE 4/29/66	INVESTIGATOR PERIOD 8/23/65 - 4/27/66
TITLE OF CASE CHARLES ROBERT SIMS aka Charles Sims Charles Simms		REPORT MADE BY SA FREDERICK J. WALLACE	TYPED BY sgp
		CHARACTER OF CASE IRM	

NON-PROSECUTIVE SUMMARY REPORT

INFORMANTS

Identity of Informants

NO T-1 is

FOIA b 7 - D

NO T-2 is

FOIA b 7 - D

NO T-3 is

FOIA b 7 - D

NO T-4 is

FOIA b 7 - D

Location of Information

FOIA b 7 - D

NO 173-201

FOIA b 7 - D

MO 157-1017

C b d ☐ Y ☐ N dm h ☐ Y ☐ N

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DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

COPIES MADE

8 - Bureau

7 - New Orleans (6- 157-5602)
(1- 157-3290)

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157-100-827

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NO 157-5602

FJW sgp

INFORMANTS CONTINUED

<u>Identity of Informant</u>	<u>Location of Information</u>
NO T-5 is [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] FOIA b 7 - D
NO T-6 is [REDACTED]	NO 157-3290
NO T-7 is [REDACTED]	NO 157-3290-290
NO T-8 is [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] FOIA b 7 - D
NO T-9 is [REDACTED]	NO 157-3290
NO T-10 is [REDACTED]	NO 157-3290
NO T-11 is [REDACTED]	NO 157-3290
NO T-12 is [REDACTED]	NO 173-201
NO T-13 is [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] FOIA b 7 - D
NO T-14 is [REDACTED]	
NO T-15 is [REDACTED]	
NO T-16 is [REDACTED]	
NO T-17 is [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] FOIA b 7 - D
NO T 18 is [REDACTED]	

ADMINISTRATIVE

This report is being submitted for information purposes only No dissemination is being made at New Orleans at this time New Orleans is maintaining enough copies for possible dissemination at a future date

B COVER PAGE

NO 157-5602

FJW sgp

Enough copies are being submitted to the Bureau for possible future dissemination This case has been placed in closed status

This report is being classified confidential in order to protect the informants as requested by auxiliary offices

C* COVER PAGE

NO 157-5602
FJW sgp

NO T-3 advised on August 26 1965 that CHARLES SIMS stated he carries a 32 or a 38 caliber gun on him at all times and the BDDJ is equipped with highpowered rifles and sub-machine guns

NO T-1 advised on September 21 1965 that the BDDJ held a rifle practice however CHARLES SIMS did not attend as he left before the rifle practice began for Detroit Michigan

NO T-5 on September 24 1965 advised that the BDDJ do not have hand grenades machine guns or any other high caliber weapons Source stated that they have three carbines which are held by CHARLES SIMS ROBERT HICKS and LOU VARNADO at their homes

D Incidents in Bogalusa October 20 1965

NO T-1 on October 20 1965 advised that CHARLES SIMS had attempted to call the President of the United States three times that day without success and stated SIMS will continue to attempt to call him to protest the situation in Bogalusa Louisiana Source stated SIMS has also attempted to contact NICHOLAS KATZENBACH Attorney General of the United States and J EDGAR HOOVER Director of the FBI Source stated SIMS is drinking approximately a fifth of gin each day and has steadily increased his drinking over the past months

Source further advised Negroes in Bogalusa blame ROBERT HICKS and CHARLES SIMS for the trouble occurring on East 4th Street between the Negroes and the local police department These people believe that individuals were arrested who have not been involved in the civil rights movement and they are asking where their leaders were before the trouble happened, when they were needed

NO T-1 advised on October 21 1965 that he was advised by a companion of SIMS that SIMS was in the Bamboo Bar on Fourth Street in Bogalusa when members of the BVL were being arrested in the area surrounding the bar When the Bogalusa Police entered the Bamboo Bar SIMS left through the rear door and went to a house in the area and had a woman stand on the porch of the house and act as a look-out for SIMS advising him as to what was taking place

NO 157-5602
F/W sgp

E Control of the Bogalusa Deacons for Defense
and Justice

NO T-5 on February 3 1966 stated that HENRY AUSTAN regards CHARLES SIMS as an incompetent and although SIMS is presently president of the BDDJ that AUSTAN intends to take over this position for himself

CHARLES SIMS IS BEING CONSIDERED ARMED AND
DANGEROUS BECAUSE HE WAS ARRESTED FOR AGGRAVATED ASSAULT AND
CARRYING CONCEALED WEAPON AND SIMS ADMITS CARRYING A 32 OR
38 CALIBER WEAPON

A P P E N D I X

WORKERS WORLD

On May 3, 1965, a confidential source advised that the 'Workers World' is the official newspaper of the Workers World Party, published twice monthly, with editorial offices located at 46 West 21st Street, New York, New York

A P P E N D I X

**FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIALIST FORUM,
aka Militant Labor Forum**

On May 3, 1965, a source advised that the Forum is a paper organization set up by the Chicago Branch, Socialist Workers Party (CBSWP), Chicago, Illinois, for Socialist Workers Party (SWP) members and sympathizers. Open meetings held under the auspices of this Forum are geared to be the activities that the SWP is pursuing at a particular time, e g , unemployment, election campaign, Cuba, segregation, etc

SUZANNE BUCH, a CBSWP member, is in charge of the Forum and schedules meetings under the name of the Forum in order to conceal the SWP sponsorship of same. The meetings of the Forum generally are held at Chicago SWP headquarters although the Forum, in the past, has sponsored other affairs, such as meetings, socials, and picnics held at other locations

The SWP has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450

A P P E N D I X

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY -
NEW YORK LOCAL

A source stated on August 25 1960 that the New York Local (NYL) of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) was founded during 1938 in New York City

A second confidential source stated on April 8 1964 that the NYL was affiliated with and followed the aims and purposes of the National SWP

The SWP has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450

A P P E N D I X

A P P E N D I X

1

REVOLUTIONARY ACTION MOVEMENT

On November 3 1964 a source made available a document entitled 'The Revolutionary Action Movement Manifesto,' the document having been obtained by the source from an individual known to be a member of the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM)

This document stated in part that RAM was officially organized in the winter of 1963 by Afro-Americans who support the revolutionary objectives of Robert F Williams now residing in Cuba and his concept of organized violence to achieve the liberation of the Afro-American people in the United States. This Manifesto disclosed that RAM had oriented its program to one of education and political revolution and the organization of a black political party with revolutionary objectives, having recognized the need for a black revolution that could and would seize power. RAM philosophy is described in this document as one of revolutionary nationalism, that is one involving the struggles of the nonwhite races of the world against exploitation and enslavement by the white capitalist and imperialist nations.

Regarding Williams it should be noted that on August 28 1961, a Federal warrant was issued at Charlotte, North Carolina, charging him with Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution for the crime of kidnapping. Subsequent to the issuance of this warrant, Williams fled the United States to Cuba where he now publishes a monthly newsletter entitled 'The Crusader' from Havana.

This source in September 1964 advised RAM is dedicated to the overthrow of the capitalist system in the United States by violence if necessary and to its replacement by a socialistic system oriented toward the Chinese Communist interpretation of Marxism-Leninism. RAM is entirely nonwhite in membership, clandestine in nature, and owes its primary allegiance to the 'Bandung World' that is, the nonwhite races of the world rather than to any national entity, as such.

A P P E N D I X

A P P E N D I X

REVOLUTIONARY ACTION MOVEMENT

2

On November 16 1964 a second source advised he learned recently from a RAM member that the organization began in Detroit, Michigan largely under the impetus of Don Freeman described as the Father of RAM and referred to as RAM's Black Stalin Freeman served as RAM Chairman, with Maxwell Stanford now of New York City, formerly of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, serving as RAM Field Chairman

This source stated in May 1965 there has been no formal headquarters as such, for RAM but that headquarters have been with Freeman since he has played such a dominant role in the leadership of and has directed the policies and activities of the organization

Within recent months according to the second source dissension within RAM has become evident and some dissatisfaction with Freeman's leadership has arisen So far as is known however, he remains the titular leader of RAM

To date according to the second source in May, 1965 RAM has organized units and membership in several of the larger cities in the United States east of the Mississippi River, and the organization is currently active in attempting to recruit new members and expand its sphere of influence

A P P E N D I X

A P P E N D I X

REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE OF
THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL

A source advised on September 9 1964 that the Revolutionary Committee of the Fourth International (RCFI) was also known as the Spartacist Committee and the Spartacist Group. This source described the RCFI as being composed of former members of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) who had split from the SWP and who were led by JAMES ROBERTSON. This source stated that this political unit has its main center in New York City where it publishes Spartacist on a very irregular basis but their formal meetings are held at least once a week.

A second source advised on March 4 1964 that FARRELL DOBBS National Secretary of the SWP sent a letter to all SWP branches in February 1964 in which he advised that the expelled leader of a minority faction of the SWP JAMES ROBERTSON announced on February 10 1964 that his faction would publicly criticize the SWP and had followed this with a public organ called Spartacist in which they attacked the SWP.

The July-August 1964 issue of Spartacist in its masthead describes this publication as follows: published bi-monthly by supporters of the Revolutionary Tendency expelled from the Socialist Workers Party. This masthead sets forth that the editor of the publication is JAMES ROBERTSON and its main address is Post Office Box 1377 General Post Office New York New York.

The SWP has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

A P P E N D I X

APPENDIX

YOUTH AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM

A confidential source advised on March 29, 1965, that the Youth Against War and Fascism (YAWF), formerly known as the Anti-Fascist Youth Committee was established by the Workers World Party (WWP) in the summer of 1962 to bring college and high school youth into the periphery of WWP activities and thereby gain recruits for the organization

A second confidential source advised on October 23 1964 that a flyer distributed by the YAWF describes that organization as a militant organization of young workers and worker-students for combating war and fascism

The first source advised on March 29 1965 that the YAWF maintains an office in Room 1214 1123 Broadway New York City and publishes a magazine called The Partisan

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

A P P E N D I X

KU KLUX KLAN

The Ku Klux Klan has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450

THE COMMUNIST PARTY

The Communist Party has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450

A P P E N D I X

27*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

*I Reply Please Refer to
File N*

New Orleans Louisiana
April 29 1966

Title	CHARLES ROBERT SIMS
Character	RACIAL MATTERS
Reference	Report of Special Agent Frederick J Wallace dated April 29 1966 at New Orleans Louisiana

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

C p y t

R p o r t f SA FREDERICK J WALLACE O f f i c e New Orleans
D i t e April 29 1966

F i l d O f f F i l e # NO 157-5602 B u r F i l e #

T i t l e CHARLES ROBERT SIMS

C h a r a c t e r RACIAL MATTERS

S y n o p s i s CHARLES SIMS presently current president Bogalusa Deacons of Defense and Justice (BDDJ) While in service 1945 SIMS was tested and found to have mental age 7 years 3 months SIMS has been traveling in United States for the BDDJ giving speeches in attempt to raise money for this organization SIMS quoted as saying he carries a 32 or 38 caliber gun with him Bogalusa Negroes have questioned SIMS finances and wondered where he was during Negro arrests in October 1965 CONSIDER ARMED AND DANGEROUS

- C -

DETAILS

Characterizations of the organizations mentioned herein are a part of the appendix section of this report

This investigation was predicated upon information furnished by NO T-1 on August 16 1965 At this time NO T-1 advised that CHARLES SIMS is president of the Bogalusa Deacons of Defense and Justice (BDDJ)

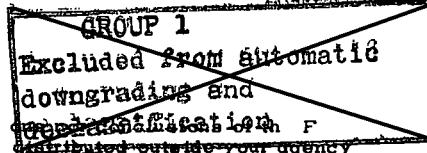
I BACKGROUNDA Birth

Subject was born October 21, 1923, at Bogalusa Louisiana

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

T h d m d

mm



f h I I

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B Citizenship

United States citizen

C Education

Subject was interviewed on March 24 1965 and advised he had an eleventh grade education

A review of the military records at the Military Personnel Records Center St Louis Missouri by Investigative Clerk THOMAS J FLETCHER reveal that SIMS was examined by the Neuropsychiatric Section Regional Hospital Camp Swift Texas on February 23 1948 and it was the opinion of the examining medical officer

(1) that the psychiatric diagnosis in this case is Mental Deficiency Mental Age Seven (7) Years and Three (3) Months This has been manifested by a poor school record in civilian life in that he was unable to finish the fifth grade at the age of sixteen or seventeen years and had difficulty in learning and understanding and the patient states that he had to repeat the third grade three times

D Marital Status

Subject advised he was single

On July 15 1965 Mr WOODROW ERWIN District Attorney Washington Parish Franklinton Louisiana advised that on July 13 1965 SAXON FARMER of Bogalusa Louisiana brought to his office three affidavits and warrants which FARMER wanted to file These warrants would bring charges against three Negroes in Bogalusa The charges were filed individually against each of these Negroes and were relating to co-habitation One of the Negroes charged was CHARLES SIMS 1636 North Avenue Bogalusa Louisiana for co-habitation with BERNICE HARRIS ERWIN stated that under Louisiana law if male is charged with co-habitation the female should equally be charged For this reason ERWIN intends to take no further action unless defendant recharged

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E Residence

1636 North Avenue Bogalusa Louisiana

F Employment

Keystone Insurance Company Bogalusa Louisiana
Insurance salesman

G Military Service

The following investigation was conducted by
IC THOMAS J FLETCHER on February 4 1966 at St Louis
Missouri

Military service records at the Military Personnel
Records Center St Louis Missouri indicated CHARLES ROBERT
SIMS SN 38 494 918 was inducted into the U S Army on
June 11 1943 and entered on active duty on the same date
at New Orleans Louisiana He was honorably discharged on
January 8 1946 as a Private at Camp Swift Texas by reason
of discharge to enlist in the regular Army

He enlisted in the United States Army on January 9
1946 and he returned to duty on the same date at Camp Swift
Texas He was honorably discharged on December 6 1948 as a
Private at Camp Hood Texas by reason of lack of adaptability
for military service based upon the report of Proceedings of
a Board of Officers

The service records indicated that SIMS had at one
time held the rank of Sergeant but he was reduced in rank
due to inefficiency The dates of service as a Sergeant and
the date of being reduced in rank are not shown in the
records

It is also to be noted that on two occasions
action was brought against SIMS in an effort to have him
discharged for inaptitude in April 1945 and in October
1945 however on each occasion the Board of Officers found
him qualified for retention and failed to recommend dis-
charge

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On October 29 1946 a Board of Officers at Camp Hood Texas found that SIMS did not possess the required degree of adaptability for the military service after reasonable attempts had been made to reclassify and reassign in keeping with his abilities and qualifications Based on the findings the Board recommended an honorable discharge due to lack of adaptability for military service

The records contained a Certificate dated February 27 1945 which indicated that SIMS was examined at the Out-Patient Clinic by the Neuropsychiatric Section Regional Hospital Camp Swift Texas on February 23 1945 and that after careful and due considerations of all available facts it was the opinion of the examining medical officer

(1) that the psychiatric diagnosis in this case is Mental Deficiency Mental Age Seven (7) Years and Three (3) Months This has been manifested by a poor school record in civilian life in that he was unable to finish the fifth grade at the age of sixteen or seventeen years and had difficulty in learning and understanding and the patient states that he had to repeat the third grade three times He has continued to have difficulty in learning and understanding since his induction in that he was unable to comprehend and understand the routine basic classroom work such as learning to read maps and a compass He has complained constantly of headaches and some confusion in thinking and these complaints have been investigated thoroughly and are without evident organic basis rather they may be explained on a psychogenic basis in the nature of a conversion hysteria and are the result of his attempt to compensate to the demands of a military environment which are beyond the limitations of his psychological reserve It is believed that he will continue to be unable to adjust to the military environment because of his intellectual retardation and that he should be separated from the service in accordance with the army regulations which are applicable to such cases

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(2) that this condition existed prior to induction and was not aggravated by military service

(3) that this condition is not correctable in a reasonable length of time and rehabilitation available to Army personnel is not feasible

He had no foreign service

He was awarded the American Theater Medal and the World War II Victory Medal

His character and efficiency ratings ranged from poor to excellent

He was tried and convicted by a Summary Court-Martial on March 17 1944 for being absent without official leave from March 5 1944 to March 15 1944 He was sentenced to forfeit \$14 00 of his pay and to perform hard labor for 15 days

He was tried and convicted by a Special Court-Martial on May 17 1945 for disrespect and disobedience of the direct order of a superior officer on May 5 1945 He was sentenced to be confined at hard labor for 6 months and to forfeit \$10 00 of his pay per month for a like period On August 14 1945 the unexecuted portion of this sentence was suspended

The records also indicated he was absent without official leave from October 7 1946 to October 9 1946 however no punishment was shown for this offense

H Arrest Record

On March 1 1965 CLAXTON KNIGHT Chief of Police Bogalusa Louisiana stated that CHARLES SIMMS the President of the Deacons of Defense and Justice is well known to the Bogalusa Police Department in that he has the following arrest record;

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHARGE</u>	<u>DISPOSITION FINE</u>	<u>COST</u>	<u>DAYS</u>
9/13 53	disturbing peace	\$15 00		30
9/15/53	4 warrants of battery	dismissed		
9/15/53		dismissed		
9/15/53		\$25 00		30
9/15/53		dismissed		
11/9/53	peace bond	\$300 bond		
5/13/56	disturbing peace	\$25 00	or	30
5/26/56	attachment	dismissed		
7/28/62	simple battery	dismissed		
8/3/57	no chauffeur license	\$15 00	\$3 00	30
9/3/57	aggravated assault	\$50 00	\$3 00	60
5/16/58	improper brake	\$10 00	\$3 00	15
10/4/58	expired driver s license	\$15 00	\$3 00	30
3/7/60	carrying concealed weapon	\$50 00	\$5 00	60
10/25/60	battery	dismissed		
11/1/60	speeding	\$5 00	\$3 00	10
12/4/61	carrying concealed weapon	\$50 00	\$5 00	60
12/28/61	speeding	\$15 00	\$3 00	30
3/20/62	peace bond	\$1000 00 bond		

5/7/62 - BERNICE HARRY appeared in court on this date and requested CHARLES SIMMS be released from custody and that all charges against him be dismissed! Court granted

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I Physical Description

Race	Negroid
Hair	Black - graying at temples
Eyes	Brown
Blood Group	A
Height	5 9½
Weight	197 pounds
Build	Heavy

J Make and Model of Automobile Used By Subject

Volkswagen 1965 Kansas license 12352

K Special Abilities of Subject

SIMS service records failed to contain any information indicating SIMS has or had any specific knowledge or training in the field of firearms demolitions or explosives

Subject has made numerous statements regarding his possession of firearms but no information to date has been established regarding the proficient use of these firearms

L Associates

Bogalusa A Z YOUNG President Bogalusa Voters League (BVL)
Louisiana

ROYAN BURRIS Vice-President BDDJ

HENRY AUSTAN, member BDDJ

LOUIS LOMAX Negro entertainer California

M Photograph

Photograph being maintained in New Orleans Office

II CONNECTION WITH THE DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8/5/651

CHARLES R SIMS 1636 North Avenue was advised of the identity and official capacity of interviewing Agents

SIMS stated the Deacons for Defense and Justice is an incorporated organization and has received a charter from the State of Louisiana He said National Offices for the Deacons for Defense and Justice are located at Jonesboro Louisiana He stated (first name unknown) BRADFORD is the National President and HENRY AMOS is the National Vice-President Both BRADFORD and AMOS live in Jonesboro Louisiana

SIMS advised that he is the president of the Bogalusa Chapter of the Deacons for Defense and Justice and ROYAN BURRIS Bogalusa Louisiana is the vice-president of the Bogalusa Chapter

SIMS stated the Deacons for Defense and Justice have a rule against divulging any information relating to the strength of membership the activities of the Deacons for Defense and Justice and the ownership of arms kept by the members of this organization He said he therefore could not furnish any further information regarding the Deacons for Defense and Justice and any other information concerning this organization would have to be obtained from the National Offices in Jonesboro Louisiana He added that for members to give any other information would be like cutting off your nose to spite your face

On 8/5/65 at Bogalusa, Louisiana File # NO 157-3290
by SA A RAYMOND SWITZER &
SA ALVIN LEE KING JJ/sgp Date dictated 8/5/65

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**III STATEMENTS BY SUBJECT CONCERNING VIOLENCE AND ACTIVITY
IN RACIAL SITUATIONS**

On May 19 1965 CHARLES SIMS while in the presence of SA ROBERT W FISCHER JR stated that he was going to settle the situation, regarding the testing of Cassidy City Park Bogalusa Louisiana with violence

On June 9 1965 a press conference was held at the residence of ROBERT HICKS Bogalusa Louisiana Coverage was by ABC T V CHARLES SIMS identified himself as the head of the BDDJ and stated this organization had been organized approximately five months prior in order to furnish proper protection for the Negroes in Bogalusa because protection was lacking on the part of local law enforcement officials SIMS stated the BDDJ would continue even if proper protection from local authorities of Bogalusa was forthcoming

SA JAMES C KENNEDY viewed the LOUIS LOMAS T V Show Channel 11 Los Angeles California beginning at 11 P M on June 13 1965 and CHARLES SIMS was the featured guest SIMS stated that the Deacons are armed and are buying more arms with which to defend themselves He admitted he is aware that it is not legal for them to carry weapons but that he would rather be caught with a weapon than without one in Bogalusa

He voiced the opinion that in the event of trouble that blood would be flowing down the street like water He claimed he could rally 100 armed men within 15 minutes notice and had done so previously He further claimed that he had used his gun twice but did not elaborate

NO T-12 on July 9 1965 advised the executive committee of the BVL, represented by three Negroes of Bogalusa and CHARLES SIMS met with the Mayor of Bogalusa Bogalusa City Council Superintendent of Louisiana State Police and the Chief of Police of Bogalusa During the meeting, SIMS was vociferous in demanding of the colonel of the Louisiana State Police, that he arrange to have a speeding ticket, which SIMS received approximately one week before, torn up

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On July 16 1965 CHARLES SIMS was overheard by SA FREDERICK J WALLACE to advise members of the BVL that if there was trouble and the BVL pickets were harassed that they had been instructed to fight back SIMS also stated he had in his possession his own personal firearm

The New York Times Magazine on August 15 1965 had an article entitled The Deacons Too Ride by Night which was written by ROY REED a reporter for the New York Times based in Louisiana

CHARLES SIMS for one figures the Deacons can get along without Dr KING (MARTIN LUTHER KING) A few days ago in a blanket invitation asking Civil Rights leaders to come to Bogalusa Mr SIMS said I want everybody here except MARTIN LUTHER KING If he came and they gunned him I couldn t protect him because he don t believe in me

NO T-1 advised on August 16 1965 STAFFORD CHAMBERLAIN Free Press News Reporter Los Angeles California was in Bogalusa and made a tape recording of an interview with CHARLES SIMS

NO T-6 advised that on August 22 1965 a dinner was held for the BDDJ at 4472 Chene Street Detroit Michigan and was sponsored by the group on advanced leadership ROBERT HICKS and CHARLES SIMS were the speakers SIMS stated the white man respects three things mainly (1) money (2) the vote because he controls everything that way and (3) power of force SIMS stated the white people have never hesitated to go to war when their freedom was in jeopardy He stated the Deacons intend to fight until they have the whole hog as they have backed up to the river and will either drown or fight

NO T-1 on September 30 1965 advised CHARLES SIMS was going to New York to see JAMES ROBERTSON a member of the Spartacist Committee however he is not certain of the purpose for the visit This contact with the Spartacist Committee is on SIMS own initiative and not backed by the BDDJ SIMS has stated he knows what this organization is up to and he can handle it

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On October 18 1965 NO T-7 advised CHARLES SIMS is to arrive via Delta Airlines during the afternoon of October 23 1965 He is to be met at the airport by MAE MALLORY who is attempting to get press coverage of his arrival SIMS is to speak at Columbia University New York University and other unannounced location On October 29 1965 a public meeting will be held at 853 Broadway New York City sponsored by Youth Against War and Fascism where SIMS and MAE MALLORY are scheduled to speak A social will be held at 319 St John s Place Brooklyn on an unannounced date for the benefit of SIMS NO T-7 advised 319 St John s Place is the residence of Kanowitz Rubins a member of the Workers World Party

On April 16 1965 NO T-7 advised that WILLIE MAE MALLORY is a member of the Workers World Party

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The Workers World volume 7 number 20 page 3 dated October 14 1965 contained an article captioned President of Deacons for Defense to Speak in New York which reflects that it was announced by RICTUE LE SEUR, a friend of the Deacons from the newly opened office of the Friends of the Deacons for Defense and Justice (FDDJ), 271 West 125th Street Room 209 New York New York that CHARLES SIMS founder of the Deacons for Defense and Justice (DDJ) and ROBERT HICKS Vice President of the BVL will speak in New York on October 23 and 25 1965

The Worker volume XXX number 80 page 2 dated October 24 1965 contained an article captioned Deacons President to Speak in New York which set forth substantially the same information as that contained in the above-mentioned article

The Worker is an east coast Communist newspaper

NO T-9 on October 25 1965 attended a fund-raising affair at Washington Temple Church of God in Christ 1732 Bedford Avenue Brooklyn New York on October 24 1965 SIMS spoke and stated he is not a speaker he is a fighter He spoke about the background of the BDDJ s but made no mention of firearms When SIMS requested donations for the organization most of the audience walked out however a collection was taken

NO T-10 on October 26 1965 advised a meeting was held at the Emanuel A M E Church 37 West 119th Street New York City on October 25 1965 at which time the Master of Ceremony apologized for the absence of CHARLES SIMS who was to be the main speaker SIMS had returned to Louisiana

NO T-13 on December 7 1965 furnished the same information

NO T-18 on October 29 1965 advised that on October 27 1965 a meeting was held at the Buffalo Branch Workers World Party Headquarters, Buffalo New York SIMS spoke regarding his organization and stated his organization is well armed and will use their weapons to protect themselves if necessary He said that each member of the organization has been screened and if any turn against the organization

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they would be treated worse than they would be treated by the Ku Klux Klan. He said members of the DDJ s are trained to die for civil rights. He stated that he was in the Watts section of Los Angeles at the time of the riot there and the colored made it a point not to destroy anything owned by colored persons.

NO T-11 advised on October 29 1965 CHARLES SIMS spoke at a public meeting sponsored by the Youth Against War and Fascism (YAWF) Academy Hall 853 Broadway New York City. SIMS recounted experiences of racial persecution and claimed that the persecution has been somewhat alleviated through the formation of Deacons.

The Workers World volume 7 number 2219 which dated November 11 1965 contained an article captioned CHARLES SIMS Deacons for Defense President speaks in New York City which reflects SIMS address at a meeting sponsored by the YAWF. The article reflects that SIMS had Deacons staked out near the local Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) headquarters in Bogalusa and SIMS saw Chief of Police looking things over. At first SIMS ignored the Chief since he knew him as a racist probably in league with the klan himself however he changed his mind and went over to the Chief and said You d better stop em cause if you don t we re gonna kill them all.

NO T-8 on November 15 1965 advised that CHARLES SIMS spoke on December 12 1965 at the Hotel Philadelphia Philadelphia Pennsylvania. SIMS stated that he had been arrested 27 times and that he had an insurance business and was making a comfortable living. SIMS stated that he had been in the service in 1942 and was a gun instructor which included experience with rifles machine guns pistols etc. Someone in the audience told him about the death of MEDGER EVERS and he told them he was familiar with this. He stated when the authorities were looking for the three civil rights workers and Mrs. LIUZZO of Detroit many dead bodies of Negroes were found in rivers however no one went to the trouble to identify them. One well dressed Negro in the audience asked SIMS if he knew he was being taken in by communists and left wingers. SIMS stated the Deacons act as individuals and as a group do not affiliate themselves with any other organizations. He further advised his group would continue receiving support from all sides and groups willing to help them.

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NO T-13 reported on December 20 1965 that on December 17 1965 CHARLES SIMS spoke to about 75 persons at 116 University Place New York SIMS spoke about Negro jobs and Negro voting in the south and that he would return to the south to get on the picket line SIMS related that his automobile had been broken into and he had lost all his clothing A contribution of \$168 00 was given to SIMS who said that this money would not go to buy guns

NO T-14 reported on December 22 1965 that on December 18 1965 leaflets were being distributed in the Harlam section of New York City which advertised a speech would be given by CHARLES SIMS at the Mount Morris Presbyterian Church 122nd Street and the Mount Morris Park on December 18 1965

Another Government agency who conducts intelligent type investigations advised that on December 10 1965 a lecture was given on the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee in its work in the Black Belt (Louisiana Alabama and Georgia) One of the speakers was CHARLES SIMS SIMS described the Deacons as a group organized for the defense of the Negroes against Ku Klux Klan attacks throughout the south SIMS when questioned on the possibility of the rebellion by the Negroes of the south replied that even if he was in favor of rebellion the time was not right SIMS also said that if the Federal State or Local authorities would not protect the rights of Negroes in the south the Deacons would manufacture their own law

NO T-8 reported on December 30 1965 that CHARLES SIMS representing the BDDJ was guest speaker on a radio station known as The Listening Post on radio station WDAS, Philadelphia Pennsylvania on December 13 1965 SIMS stated in his talk that while the Deacons did not start trouble they did not intend to sit down He stated that there were about 40 to 50 chapters of the DDJ and claimed that white brutality and terror will vanish

NO T-15 reported on December 15 1965 that CHARLES SIMS was principal speaker at a meeting held at the residence of MARTHA RICCA 5756 North Camac Philadelphia Pennsylvania on December 13 1965 Source stated that the meeting was not sponsored by any local organization and that approximately sixty individuals attended the affair SIMS was the principal speaker and gave a history of the DDJ since it was formed

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in March 1965 and pointed out that since the Deacons have armed themselves the Klan have not had any rallies in Bogalusa. He further stated that from his experience in racial segregation he does not believe in the non-violence method of fighting segregation as advocated by MARTIN LUTHER KING

NO T-16 advised on December 21 1965 that CHARLES SIMS was guest speaker at a gathering at the Philadelphia Athletic Club Philadelphia Pennsylvania on December 12 1965. Source stated that the meeting was sponsored by the Socialist Workers Party, DRE and the Ogontz Voters League. SIMS stated in his address that he had come to organize the Deacons. He stated that he had come to the same conclusion as had ROBERT WILLIAMS that the Negro people to survive must arm and defend themselves rather than to think of equal justice.

NO T-17 reported on December 21 1965 that a meeting was held at the Masonic Temple East 105th Street in Cleveland Ohio December 19 1965 which featured CHARLES SIMS. Source stated that DON FREEMAN chairman of the Revolutionary Action Movement RAM spoke on self-defense and that SIMS spoke after FREEMAN. Source said that SIMS talked about defending the community and civil rights workers and claimed that if the klan armed themselves that the Negroes have the right to do the same.

LA VERNON CORNELIUS 7354 South Michigan Avenue Chicago advised on April 7 1966 that he had correspondence with RUFUS ADAMS 653 First Avenue Bogalusa Louisiana. ADAMS advised a group of individuals associated with the BDDJ were coming to Chicago to raise funds and ADAMS gave this group a letter of introduction to CORNELIUS as a person who could possibly assist in raising money. CHARLES SIMS, A Z YOUNG Mrs GAYLE JENKINS, ROYAN BURRIS MARY WILLIAMS and SAM BARNES contacted him on April 4 1966 in Chicago and requested his help. The above persons desired a press conference in Chicago and CORNELIUS let them hold a press conference in his residence on April 5 1966. On April 8 1966 CORNELIUS advised that the group from Bogalusa had left Chicago enroute to Bogalusa.

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The following excerpts appeared in the April 6 1966 issue of the Chicago Daily News Chicago Illinois newspaper

Deacons for Defense and Justice an armed Negro self-defense organization is starting a Chicago branch to help in the struggle of the south says President CHARLES SIMS

SIMS says the Deacons hoped to raise money and man power here for civil rights campaigns in Bogalusa and other southern cities

He said armed Deacons patrol Negro neighborhoods guard the homes of civil rights leaders and watch Negro churches so they don t get bombed

SIMS said he hadn t planned on working with KING in Chicago We want KING s help in Bogalusa he said

While the northern Negro can use ballots instead of bullets he said there is a need for Deacons everywhere in the country where black men exist

IV MISCELLANEOUS

A Finances

NO T-1 advised on August 10 1965 that some of the expenses of the BDDJ are reimbursed by the BVL and for this reason SIMS was made financial secretary of the BVL

NO T-1 advised on August 13 1965 that CHARLES SIMS was relieved of his position as financial secretary of the BVL

NO T-1 on August 20 1965 advised that one of the last official acts of SIMS as financial secretary was to close BVL accounts with a number of local businesses in Bogalusa that he had personal differences with This resulted in hard feelings in the Negro community

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On September 13 1965 NO T-1 advised Negro individuals in Bogalusa are beginning to question SIMS regarding his finances. The BDDJ s are supposed to have quite a bit of money but no one knows where it is and SIMS is presently not working yet seems to have plenty of money.

NO T-1 advised on September 30 1965 that CHARLES SIMS went to Los Angeles to raise money for the BDDJ in the area of the Los Angeles high school. SIMS appearance on the DICK GREGORY Show did not materialize as LOUIS LOMAX could not arrange the appearance as he had a falling out with GREGORY.

NO T-5 advised on October 9 1965 that CHARLES SIMS had returned from his trip to the west coast and it was reported that SIMS obtained \$1900 00 during his trip.

NO T-1 on October 23 1965 advised SIMS left on October 22 1965 to go to New York to solicit funds for the Bogalusa Negro community. The DDJ s throughout the State of Louisiana held a meeting on October 21 1965 in New Orleans and a considerable amount of money was collected for the BVL and the BDDJ. Source stated it is questionable how much of this money will be turned over to the two organizations as in the past only a small amount of money was actually turned into the two organizations and the source feels that a good portion of the money collected on October 21 1965 will remain with CHARLES SIMS and HENRY AUSTAN as traveling funds as they have been doing this for the past several months.

NO T-1 advised on October 26 1965 that CHARLES SIMS and ROBERT HICKS had returned from a weekend trip to New York where they spoke at a few rallies in order to raise money for the BDDJ. It is the understanding of the source that very little money had been collected.

**B Organization of Deacons for Defense and Justice
Units by SIMS**

NO T-2 on February 22 1965 advised that on the night of February 1 1965 six members of CORE and seven or eight Negroes from Bogalusa of which CHARLES SIMS was one had a meeting at the Negro Labor Hall in Bogalusa Louisiana to discuss the establishment of a DDJ Unit in Bogalusa.

NO 157-5602
FJW sgp

On March 1 1965 Chief of Police CLAXTON KNIGHT, Bogalusa Louisiana Police Department advised that on the night of February 18 1965 a volunteer meeting of the DDJ met at the Negro Labor Hall There were 14 Negroes in attendance one of which was CHARLES SIMS

NO T-3 advised on August 26 1965 that CHARLES SIMS and ROYAN BURRIS of Bogalusa Louisiana were contacted to appear before a group in Jackson Mississippi on August 29 1965

NO T-3 on August 30 1965 advised that he had determined that CHARLES SIMS attended a meeting on August 29 1965 at the Masonic Temple Lynch Street Jackson Mississippi with other members of the BDDJ Approximately 18 to 20 individuals stated that they were interested in organizing a unit in Mississippi SIMS told the group that to organize chapters they must have money brave men fast cars and dependable individuals It was agreed that SIMS would return to Mississippi after September 15 1965

MIKE HIGSON Assistant Officer Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party 507½ North Farish Jackson Mississippi advised on October 15 1965 that he does not believe SIMS has returned to Mississippi since August 30 1965

NO T-1 on September 2 1965 advised that CHARLES SIMS stated that he had been in Jackson Mississippi, the week of August 30, 1965 trying to organize the DDJ in Jackson SIMS indicated the Negroes in Jackson were very reluctant to get involved

NO T-4 on September 2 1965 advised that the DDJ held an organizational meeting on February 21 1965, at 2697 Sheldon Street Jonesboro Louisiana CHARLES SIMS was present at this meeting and was elected temporary president

C Firearms

NO T-1 on August 10 1965 advised CHARLES SIMS had purchased surplus military arms at Roland s Store on South Rampart Street New Orleans Louisiana These purchases are believed to be 30 06 rifles and side arms

F B I

Dat 7/2/66

T smit the foll w ng

(Typ pl d)

V AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(P y)

TO SAC, BALTIMORE (157-1008)
 FROM SAC NEW ORLEANS (157-3290) (P)
 SUBJECT DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE (DDJ) RM

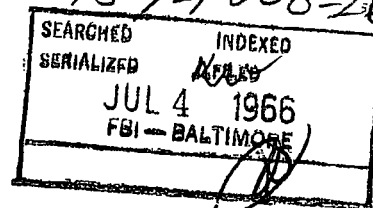
Reurtel this date and New Orleans teletype to
 Baltimore this date

Enclosed for the information of Baltimore
 is one copy of report of SA FREDERICK J WALLACE at
 New Orleans dated 4/29/66 *Captained Charles*

Robert Sims, aka RM

② - Baltimore (Enc 1) (AMSD)
 2 - New Orleans

DDR/srl
 (4)



App o d

Special Agent n Charge

Sent M

Pe

FBI BALTO

FBI NEW ORLS

1119 AM CST URGENT 7-2-66 RJS

TO BALTIMORE (157-1008)

FROM NEW ORLEANS (157-3290)

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE (DDJ) RM

REURTEL SEVEN TWO INSTANT

ERNEST THOMAS, HEAD OF DDJ, IS A COLORED MALE, DOB

FOIA b 6

FOIA b 6

FIVE FOOT ELEVEN

AND ONE HALF INCHES, TWO HUNDRED TWENTY ONE POUNDS WITH BLACK
HAIR AND BROWN EYES. THOMAS HAS ONE HALF INCH SCAR ON LEFT
SIDE OF MOUTH AND TWO AND ONE HALF SCAR ON LEFT SIDE OF HEAD. HE
IS MARRIED TO EVA MAY THOMAS, JONESBORO, LA, AND HAS SEVEN
CHILDREN

FOIA b 6

END

BA TEC

FBI BALTO

CLRP

157-1008-25

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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JUL 2 1966	
FBI-BALTIMORE	

FBI BALTO

FBI NEW ORLS

1 19 AM CST URGENT 7-2-66 RJS

TO BALTIMORE (157-1008)

FROM NEW ORLEANS (157-3290)

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE (DDJ) RM

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FOIA b 6

END

BA TEC

FBI BALTO

CLRP

157-1008-25

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FBI NEW ORLS

4 57 PM CST LRGENT 7 3 66 WSW

TO DIRECTOR AND BALTIMORE /157 1008/

FROM NEW ORLEANS /157 3290/ /P/

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE /DDJ/ RM

RE BALTIMORE TEL TODAY

SOURCES BAGALUSA LA ADVISED CHARLES SIMS
SEEN IN BOGALUSA AT TWO P M TODAY BACKGROUND
INFORMATION RE SIMS BEING FORWARDED BALTIMORE
AMSD

ERNEST THOMAS P O BOX FOUR SEVEN TWO
JONESBORE LA HAS NINETEEN FIFTYNINE CHRYSLER FOUR
DOOR SEDAN VIN M FIVE THREE ONE ONE ONE ZERO NINE
SIX SIX BEARING LOUISIANA LICENSE FOURTEEN DASH F
DASH EIGHT SIX TWO

NEW ORLEANS SOURCE BELIVES CORE CONVENTION ONLY
REASON FOR THOMAS BEING IN BALTIMORE SIMS SHOULD BE
CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS
END AND ACK PLS

WA JPM

FBI WASH DC

BA KGW

FBI BALTO

TUP←

*Patrolman Raymond Mackay
Col. Battaglini's Office BA PD
+ Lt Paul Wolensky Ba Co PD
Det Burr advised per*

1
1002
Wolensky
per
-74

FBI NEW ORLS

4 57 PM CST URGENT 7 3 66 WSW

TO DIRECTOR AND BALTIMORE /157 1003/

FROM NEW ORLEANS /157 3290/ /P/

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE /DDJ/ RM

RE BALTIMORE TEL TODAY

SOURCES BAGALUSA LA ADVISED CHARLES SIMS

SEEN IN BOGALUSA AT TWO P M TODAY BACKGROUND

INFORMATION RE SIMS BEING FORWARDED BALTIMORE

AMSD

ERNEST THOMAS P O BOX FOUR SEVEN TWO

JONESBORE LA HAS NINETEEN FIFTYNINE CHRYSLER FOUR

DOOR SEDAN VIN M FIVE THREE ONE ONE ONE ZERO NINE

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DASH EIGHT SIX TWO

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REASON FOR THOMAS BEING IN BALTIMORE SIMS SHOULD BE

CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS

END AND ACK PLS

WA JPM

FBI WASH DC

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157 1003 24
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FBI

Dat 6/30/66

Tr n mit th foll wi g i

(Typ i plai od)

Vi AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Pri ty M hod f Masling)

TO DIRECTOR FBI(157-2466)
FROM SAC NEW ORLEANS (157 3290) (P)
SUBJECT DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
RM

LHM Enclosed herewith are 11 copies of a self explanatory

The source referred to in the LHM is who is known to the Bureau He is classed as a source of unknown reliability because there has not been sufficient contact to date to establish his reliability

FOIA b 7 - D

The LHM has been disseminated locally to the USA Shreveport Louisiana Secret Service ICG NISO New Orleans as well as OSI Barksdale Air Force Base Louisiana and USA New Orleans

For the information of Chicago

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

3-Bureau (Enc 11)(RM)
1-Jackson (RM)(Enc)
1 Chicago (RM)(Enc)
1 WFO (Info)(Enc)
1-Los Angeles (Info)(Enc)
1-Cleveland (Info)(Enc)
1-Birmingham (RM)(Enc)
1-New York (Info)(Enc)
3-New Orleans (2- 157-3290)

1-Baltimore(Info)(Enc)

FOIA b 7 - D

DCS/cac
(14)

157-1008-23

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Walt

App d S t M P
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FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

FOIA b 7 - D

Birmingham and Jackson should notify appropriate
authorities regarding the information contained in the
attached LHM concerning Governors WALLACE and JOHNSON



I R pl Please R fer to
File N

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New Orleans Louisiana

June 30 1966

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE (DDJ)

A source of unknown reliability advised that from June 24 1966 to June 27 1966 ERNEST THOMAS was seen with the march from Memphis Tennessee to Jackson Mississippi He was continuing his role as head of the Deacons of Defense and Justice (DDJ) and was providing protect on for the members of the march On Friday afternoon and evening he was in Canton Mississippi That evening he had an argument with other leaders of the march Thomas maintained that the march should go back to the school ground where they had been stopped from pitching their tents and set their tents up there that night Others believed that since they had conducted a rally on the school ground this gave them enough of a victory that they should not stir up any more trouble It was stated that the tents were in Tougaloo Mississippi in any case and it would not be possible to set them up in Canton that night Finally an agreement was reached by the leaders that if they argued among themselves this would create a lot of adverse publicity for their case and they should attempt to stick together despite their differences The matter was then dropped and the members of the march were taken to Tougaloo Mississippi where they spent the night

All during that Friday night and Saturday morning ERNEST THOMAS set up and maintained security around the camp He would not let any reporters into the camp that night He stated that all of the reporters had citizens band radios in their cars and they could possibly alert the Klan to what defenses were around the camp and what the activities were in the camp

THOMAS was assisted in his activities to protect the marchers by three other groups from Chicago In total there were six cars and one school bus known to be with the march from Chicago The three groups present from Chicago were the Devil's Disciples the Vice Lords and

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JUL 1 1966	

[Handwritten signatures and initials are present over the stamp]

22

the Blackstone Rangers The head of the Devil s Disciples was a man who used the nickname of Hot Shot His second lieutenant was a man who used the nickname of SATAN This group reportedly numbered about thirty and they were all supposedly armed although no arms were actually seen The leaders indicated that they were heavily armed and ready for trouble The head of the Vice Lords was a man who used the nickname of PEPPER This was supposedly the nickname that he used around Chicago but he was known to the members of his group by the name of DUCK It is believed that this man's real name is JAMES HARRIS and he lives at 1232 Rolin Chicago Illinois This group also numbered about thirty and were also supposedly heavily armed It is believed that the above two groups came to Mississippi in the same school bus The Blackstone Rangers came by car Some of them arrived in Mississippi on Saturday June 25 1966 The leader of this group was a man by the name of GENE His second lieutenant was RANDOLPH WHEATON 1511 West 63rd Street Chicago Illinois LOUIS WATERS 4500 Cottage Street Chicago Illinois and AUSTIN RUCKER 5402 Woodlawn Chicago Illinois are also members of this group During the time the Blackstone Rangers were in Mississippi they used the car of RANDOLPH WHEATON which is a tan colored Barac da with an unknown Illinois license number THOMAS exerted considerable control and influence over these groups while they were in Mississippi but it is not known if they are members of the DDJ

In addition to the above named groups from Chicago members of the Bogalusa Louisiana Voters League and the Bogalusa Louisiana chapter of the DDJ were present There were eight to ten members of the Bogalusa Louisiana chapter of the DDJ in Mississippi Those recognized were CHARLIE SIMS HENRY AUSTIN and J T WYATT On Sunday June 26 1966 CHARLIE SIMS rode all the way from Tougaloo Mississippi, to Jackson Mississippi on the truck with JAMES MEREDITH to protect him It is known that CHARLIE SIMS was carrying a gun at that time

CHARLIE SIMS and ERNEST THOMAS had an argument while they were together in Mississippi. Thomas accused Sims of going out of the state of Louisiana and attempting to set up DDJ chapters and collecting money on his own. Thomas told Sims that no one could set up DDJ chapters but Thomas and Sims would have to stop this type activity or he would be stopped. It was learned that last year while all of the trouble was occurring in Bogalusa, Louisiana, Charlie Sims traveled around the country collecting money for the DDJ in Bogalusa. During the course of his travels, he met May Mallory of New York City. May Mallory lives at 11029 Western Street, Apartment 12E, New York, New York. After Sims returned to Bogalusa, he sent Henry Austin to New York to see May Mallory. Austin went to New York and gave a speech which May Mallory taped in her apartment. May Mallory was then supposed to send or sell this speech to Cuba. Austin went back to New York to make a second speech for May Mallory sometime later. While Thomas and Sims were arguing, Sims asked Austin why he had gone back to New York the second time. Austin stated that Sims had told him to. Sims denied this. At that point the argument ended.

Sims stated that during all of the trouble in Bogalusa, Louisiana, last year, a man named Lomax from Los Angeles, California, came to Bogalusa and gave Sims \$800.00 and gave \$1700.00 to the Bogalusa Civic League. A discussion of money followed at this point, and Thomas indicated that he had \$800.00 with him at this time. Thomas also stated that he had been given \$600.00 by the football player Jimmie Brown to come to Mississippi and protect the marchers. Thomas advised that he has been setting up DDJ chapters and he charges \$25.00 per member to join the DDJ. In addition, he stated that he charges a certain percentage of the dues collected by each chapter of the DDJ. Thomas stated that he handles only his salary of the money coming into his organization. He has a man working as treasurer who is also on salary. This man

working as treasurer who is also on salary handles all of the money except THOMAS salary THOMAS stated that shortly all of his officers would be on salary but he could not afford that yet He said that there would be a lot of money coming into the organization in August and then all of the officers would go on salary THOMAS said that he did not want any communist money because they would then expect to run the organization and he would also be branded a communist

THOMAS stated that he had DDJ chapters in Evanston Illinois Chicago Illinois Washington D C and Cleveland Ohio Three members of the DDJ chapter in Evanston were in Mississippi The head of the Evanston chapter is a man called AGWUH CHI-SIRROH 1606 Darrow Avenue Evanston Illinois home telephone 869-9264 and office phone 869 8306 The other two members present were BOB WINNBUSH 3806 South Parkway telephone 643-8279 and BANNATT JOHNSON 909 Gray Avenue Evanston Illinois telephone 869 8889 These men were armed and THOMAS fixed the gun carried by the leader when he realized it was jammed THOMAS carries tools in the truck of his car he uses to work on firearms

ERNEST THOMAS has an office in Chicago Illinois and it is at 1236 Pulaski Street Chicago Illinois

THOMAS related that he had been thinking of plans which could be used to break down white supremacy and get the Negro cause forward He stated that it would be necessary to kill a few white people especially policemen to break the white supremacy In the process a few Negroes may die but that is the price to be paid THOMAS also said that it will be necessary to kill a few Uncle Tom Negroes in order to get the Negro people moving THOMAS considers Uncle Tom Negroes the same as white people THOMAS said that he had been thinking of a plan where five or six Negroes ride in a car together All except the driver hide in the car The driver then speeds until he is stopped by a policeman The policeman would be shot or attacked by the Negroes in the car He is then

left on the road when the car drives on THOMAS also said that Governor JOHNSON of Mississippi and Governor WALLACE of Alabama should be assassinated THOMAS stated that there would be a riot possibly in Chicago this summer He said there would be a riot in Chicago because Mayor DALEY had not been making any concessions to the demands of the Negroes in that city THOMAS mentioned the date of August 4 1966 in connection with a riot in Chicago but it is not known if he is planning any demonstrations or activity on that date

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency

5*

7/6/66

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO DIRECTOR FBI (157-2466)
FROM SAC, JACKSON (157-3465) (P)

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE INC
RM

Re Baltimore tdetype to Director, dated 7/2/66 and
Jackson teletype to Director, 7/2/66

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are eleven (11)
copies of an LHM to the Bureau and one copy each to Baltimore
and New Orleans, dated and captioned as above

Copies of LHM being sent to INTC, Secret Service, and
USA, all of Jackson, Mississippi.

No further action is being taken regarding the infor-
mation contained in the LHM

3 - Bureau (Enc 11)
① - Baltimore (Enc 1) (Info) (157-1008)
1 - New Orleans (Enc 1) (Info) (157-3290)
2 - Jackson (157-3465)
MEH/bjk
(7)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Jackson Mississippi
July 6 1966

IRI Plea Rf to
Fil N

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
INCORPORATED RACIAL
MATTERS

The Baltimore Maryland Police Department advised a representative of the FBI on July 2 1966 that Ernest Thomas and Charles Simms President of the Bogalusa Louisiana chapter of the Deacons of Defense and Justice were staying at the Mt Royal Hotel that city Simms was reportedly driving a tan Oldsmobile 98 bearing Mississippi License number 45 D 972

Mr M E Farmer Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol Jackson Mississippi advised on July 2 1966 that the above Mississippi license is registered to Bobbie Ruth Chinn 325 Owen Street Canton Mississippi

Prior investigation has disclosed that Miss Bobbie Ruth Chinn's father C O Chinn Sr 225 Owen Street Canton Mississippi a Civil Rights worker at the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party Headquarters Canton Mississippi has driven this vehicle on occasions C O Chinn Sr was arrested by Canton Mississippi Police Department on July 22 1966 and charged with assault and battery with a pistol with intent to kill and murder C O Chinn Sr and family have been extremely active in Civil Rights work

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your Agency it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency

157-1008-21
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JUL 11

157-1008-20 *me*

6/20/66

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO DIRECTOR FBI (157-2466)
FROM SAC NEW ORLEANS (157-3290)
DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
RM
(OO NO)

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are eight
copies of a LHM captioned as above and suitable for
dissemination Two copies being enclosed for Baltimore
Copies disseminated to Secret Service and ICG New Orleans

3 - Bureau (Enc 8)
2 - Baltimore (Enc 2)
2 - New Orleans

JEO med
(7)

*Info in serials 17 18 19
furnished to Officer
Harwood Barrett
by Baltaghe's Office 4/28/64*

*reopened
6 27 66*

157-1008-19

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

I Reply Please Refer to
File N

New Orleans Louisiana

June 20 1966

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE

On June 13 1966 Charles Sims, President Bogalusa Chapter Deacons of Defense and Justice (DDJ) advised that the DDJ of Bogalusa is planning to go to Baltimore Maryland sometime after the completion of the present Meredith march in Mississippi

Sims stated that no specific date has been set for the trip to Baltimore but added that it is definitely planned He further stated that the number of Deacons who will participate in this endeavor has not been decided upon at this time

Regarding current officers of the Bogalusa Chapter of the DDJ Sims advised that he is President Royan Burris is Vice President and Robert Hicks, in addition to being Vice President of the Bogalusa Voters League is head of business relations for the Deacons

Sims declined to furnish a membership list and indicated he would not do so at any time

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency

157-1008-18

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AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(P y)

TO SAC BALTIMORE (157-1008)
FROM SAC NEW ORLEANS (157-3290) (P)
SUBJECT DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
RM
(OO NEW ORLEANS)

Re Baltimore airtel 6/1/66

Baltimore is being adv sed by separate airtel of the plans for some members of the Deacons of Defense and Justice (DDJ) in Bogalusa Louisiana to travel to Baltimore

Numerous sources in various communities where there is known to exist DDJ chapters have been contacted and none of these sources have been able to furnish any information which would indicate that there are plans for DDJ members to proceed to Baltimore this summer

The President of the New Orleans chapter of the DDJ is ~~AUBREY WOODS~~, who is not especially cooperative with the FBI and who has not been available for contact for the past several days. However ~~RICHARD HALEY~~ Regional Director Congress of Racial Equality New Orleans on 6/10/66 advised that he is in fairly regular contact with WOODS and that WOODS indicated to him that he had no plans to send

② Baltimore
② New Orleans

EJC mln
(4)

157-1008-17

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JUL 11 1966	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

App d _____ S t _____ M P _____
Sp l Ag Ch g

NO (157-3290) mln

any deacons to join the JAMES MEREDITH march in Mississippi or anywhere else in the country at this time

Set forth below are some of the members of the Deacons of Defense in Louisiana

ELMO JACOBS	Jonesboro	Louisiana
HENRY AUSTIN	Bogalusa	Louisiana
CHARLES SIMS	Bogalusa	Louisiana
ROYAN BURRIS	Bogalusa	Louisiana
HENRY AMOS	Jonesboro	Louisiana
ERNEST THOMAS	Bogalusa	Louisiana
HENRY L. RICHARDSON	Minden	Louisiana
W. L. CUNNINGHAM	Minden	Louisiana
GEORGE DODD JR	Homer	Louisiana
FRED LEWIS	Homer	Louisiana

New Orleans will continue contacts with appropriate sources and promptly advise Baltimore of any indication that there are deacons making plans to go to Baltimore this summer

6/1/66

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO : SAC NEW ORLEANS (157-3290)
FROM : SAC BALTIMORE (157-1008)
SUBJECT : DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
RACIAL MATTERS

Baltimore has been chosen by CORE as a target city for racial demonstrations this summer. The Acting Commissioner of Police Baltimore, General GEORGE M GELSTON advised SAC that he had unconfirmed information that members of the Deacons of Defense and Justice may come to Baltimore either to participate in the CORE activities or to interfere with possible KKK counter-picketing. General GELSTON asked if this office could determine the names of officers or deacons and/or members so that it could be determined if any were in Baltimore or even coming to Baltimore.

New Orleans is requested to advise if there is any indication that the deacons might send representatives to Baltimore this summer and also furnish, if available, the names of officers and members of the deacons so they can be indexed in the Baltimore Office files.

2 - New Orleans (AIR MAIL)

1 - Baltimore

ERT:cm

(3) *cm*

157-1008-16

S a c h d	
S l e d	<i>ccr</i>
I n d	<i>d</i>
F i l e d	<i>ccr</i>

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
M E M O R A N D U M

TO DIRECTOR FBI (100-444963) DATE 2/8/66
FROM SAC PITTSBURGH (100-15332) (P)
SUBJECT: JOHN BROWN COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE
IS - C
(OO New York)

Remyairtel 12/14/65

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of a letterhead memorandum and for other offices for information purposes the specified number of copies of the letterhead memorandum Eight copies of the LHM have been furnished the Bureau in view of the racial connotation of this matter

The sources utilized in the enclosed LHM are

PG T-1 is

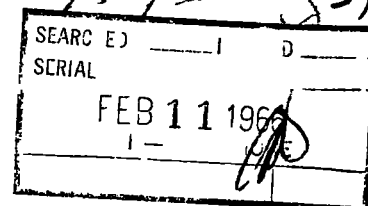
FOIA b 7 - D

PG T-2 is

FOIA b 7 - D

- 2 - Bureau (Encls 8)(RM)
- ② - Baltimore (157-1008)(Encls 2)(RM)
- 1 - Cincinnati (Encl 1)(Info)(RM)
- 1 - Newark (Encl 1)(Info)(RM)
- 2 - New York (105-76987)(Encls 2)(RM)
- 1 - New Orleans (100-17284)(Info)(Encl 1)(RM)
- 2 - Washington Field (Encls 2)(RM)
- 2 - Pittsburgh

ERF ear
(13)



PG 100-15332

Invest gat on herein conducted by SA EDWARD R FLEMING JR

FOIA b 7 - D

It is noted that no leads are being set out for the various offices at this time to further identify persons named in the letterhead memorandum and it is left to the discretion of the New York Office if such investigation is desired and the depth such investigation should include

LEADS

PITTSBURGH

AT PITTSBURGH, PA (ALLEGHENY COUNTY)

Will review tape recording furnished in conjunction with notes and transcript made by stenographers and thereafter furnish separate LHM setting out data obtained from the tape recording



I R I Please Refer
File N

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Pittsburgh Pennsylvania
February 8 1966

JOHN BROWN COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE

Reference is made to memorandum captioned as above and dated December 14 1965 at Pittsburgh Pa

On December 13 1965 PG T-1 furnished the following information

On the morning of December 11 1965 a man who identified himself as Booker Nelson 313 Long Elm Greenwood, Mississippi appeared at the visitors center of the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park Harpers Ferry W Va Nelson said he was to meet Clarence Senior 604 Brown Street Monroe N C and together they were to attend and address the John Brown Commemoration Committee which was having a pilgrimage at Harpers Ferry W Va on December 11 1965

PG T-1 was able to ascertain that a total of 81 luncheons were served to those attending the meeting of the John Brown Commemoration Committee at its meeting at the Hilltop House Hotel Harpers Ferry at noon on December 11 1965 PG T-1 also ascertained that 31 of the persons attending this meeting were white and that during the course of the luncheon and the conference which followed it it was announced at various times that another busload of people from the South had arrived in Washington D C but the driver got lost in Washington D C and it was not known if this busload would be able to arrive in time to take part in any of the conference

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency

157-1008-14

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SERIAL/ D
FEB 11 1966
FBI - B E

JOHN BROWN COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE

PG T 1 was told that a resolution which had not been previously reduced to writing was made and passed to hold another pilgrimage to Harpers Ferry W Va , on December 2 1966 and on this occasion it was the plan for each of those attending the 1965 pilgrimage to attempt to bring a number of others with them so that the total number would reach 500

PG T-1 furnished the following items which were given to him and had been obtained at the conference which took place at the Hilltop House Hotel on December 11 1965

- 1 Mimeograph of the schedule for the conference on December 11 1965
A Xerox copy attached hereto
- 2 Mimeographed Draft Resolution of Harper s Ferry
A Xerox copy attached hereto
- 3 Mimeographed letter to The President from Dorothy Pitman dated August 4 1965 A Xerox copy attached hereto
- 4 Mimeographed announcement of the establishment of John Brown College located South Kortright New York
A Xerox copy attached hereto

JOHN BROWN COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE

- 5 Mimeographed sheet bearing lyrics of Move On Over words by Len H Chandler Jr and copyright by the Fall River Music Inc 200 West 57th Street New York N Y
A Xerox copy attached hereto
- 6 Mimeographed publication of three sheets described as Organizing Bulletin of John Brown College dated October 7 1965 and captioned The Old Miner A Xerox copy attached hereto
- 7 Volume I No 3 of The Long March described as a quarterly with the publishing address as P O Box 2560 Baltimore Maryland The editorial staff of this publication is listed as Marian Lummis Co-Editor Keith C Kern Co-Editor and Leah Heyn Secretary
- 8 Two large posters 21 x 16 advertising the John Brown Memorial Pilgrimage
- 9 A note on torn piece of paper which reads Dorothy Will you introduce those who joined us from Miss etc Edna

PG T-1 said that he had been told that someone in the group attending the pilgrimage had set fire to two small Confederate flags which were displayed for sale at the souvenir stand at the Hilltop House Hotel These two small flags were totally destroyed and a small American flag was singed as a result of the flame

JOHN BROWN COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE

PG T-1 said that he personally observed that about 80 individuals came into the main portion of the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park at around 4 30 P M December 11 1965 He noted there was no conducted tour of the park because of the late hour and that the group separated into smaller groups ranging in size from about 17 to two people

The register of visitors at the National Historical Park which is maintained in the visitors center at the park had the following individuals recorded as visitors on December 11 1965 whom PG T-1 believed were part of the group attending the pilgrimage

Roland A Hirsch
1150 Park Avenue
New York

Bernice A Blonstein
Brooklyn N Y

Albert Dare
NYC 10011 New York

Alex Munsell
NYC 10011 New York

On the register of visitors for December 11 1965 the following names were signed above those of Hirsch et al and PG T-1 said that it could not be established if these were members of the pilgrimage

Eric Jacobs
Washington D C

Norma Shelton
Washington D C

Fern Treadwell
Washington D C

Jeanne Walton
Washington D C

JOHN BROWN COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE

On January 18 1966 PG T-2 made available a Xerox copy of five pages of notes and direct quotations made by unknown stenographic personnel who were near the conference held at the Hilltop House on December 11 1965 A Xerox copy of these five pages is attached hereto

PG T 2 said that on December 21 1965 William Pitman Co ordinator John Brown Commemoration Committee 100 West 82nd Street New York 24 New York directed a letter to D D Kilham Hilltop House Harpers Ferry W Va wherein Pitman expressed his appreciation for the hospitality rendered to the committee and the fine food and service given to the group Pitman apologized for the unfortunate incident and expressed the hope that it did not mar our relations in the future Pitman assured Kilham that he and his associates would use all their means possible to avoid such an occurrence in the future and expressed the desire to arrange for facil ties on December 2 and 3 1966 to feed 250 people and to accommodate as many as possible for the night of December 2 1966

PG T 2 also furnished a Xerox copy of a letter to Kilham from Alex Munsell wh ch bears the heading May Knowledge and Truth Prevail May Ignorance and Prejudice Wither Away and the return address of Box 29 Old Chelsea Station New York New York This letter is dated December 20 1965 and in t Munsell expressed his thanks for the hospitality given to the John Brown Commemoration Committee He said he was writing as an individual member of the group He pointed out that he was sorry there was such an individualistic and anarchist incident and expressed great admiration for the straightforward way that Kilham had challenged the group to live up to their principles Munsell expressed pleasure at the John Brown Wax Museum and the Federal John Brown Museum and said he was impressing all his friends of the importance of the committee s visit to Harpers Ferry and with the hospitality received from the Hilltop House

John Brown Pilgrimage Conference

December 11, 1965

Hilltop House, Harper's Ferry, J. Va.

AGENDA

11:00 PM Registration

12:00 PM Lunch

12:45 PM Welcome to Harper's Ferry Dorothy Pitman

New Lyrics to Old "John Brown's Body" Len Chandler

Keynote Address.....Clarence Jenkins

Speeches Truman Nelson

Henry Austin

Clint Hopson

Booker Nelson

2:30 PM Reading of Draft Resolution William Pitman

Open Discussion

Brief Recess

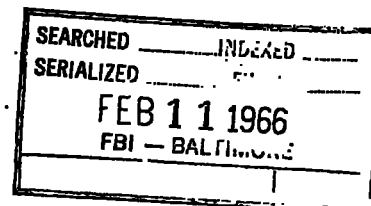
Reading of "Resolution of Harper's Ferry, December 11,

1965" and Summation

Conrad Lynn

4:15 PM Conducted Tour of Historical Sites

John Brown Commemoration Committee
100 West 82nd St.
New York, N.Y. 10024



December 11, 1963

One hundred and six years ago, John Brown attempted to start a slave uprising here at Harper's Ferry. Brown, his sons, and a few of his friends attacked Federal Arsenal to get arms to distribute to the slaves. They were unsuccessful in their immediate aim. But their efforts helped spark the Civil War which led to the end of direct chattel slavery.

Today, the Freedom Movement is in a crisis. But the spirit of John Brown lives on.

"Life springs from death and from the graves of Patriot men and women spring living nations."

-We remember Jimmy Lee Jackson giving his life in the fullest meaning.

-We remember our brother, Malcolm X, the fighter.

-We remember Patrice Lumumba.

All of these brave men were ordered by the same oppressor.

We have not forgotten Robert Williams, now in forced exile in Cuba. Today in the field of battle, the Deacons for Defense and Justice are already arming the selves to resist the ravages of the Ku Klux Klan and other servants of the oppressors.

"No defeat befalls the truly brave."

We who are assembled here today declare our independence from the doctrine of non-resistance.

We declare our independence from the direct and indirect ideological domination of this doctrine, a doctrine which has left our overent choked on its own blood.

We declare our independence from the whole official establishment of white supremacy, the "lily-white" Supreme Court, the White House, the all-white U.S. Senate, and the unrepresentative House of Representatives.

John Brown Commemoration Committee
100 West 82nd St.
N.Y., N.Y. 10024
62-4954

August 4, 1965

The President
White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

As a black mother listening to your speech of July 27 on America's commitment to freedom in Vietnam, I could not help but think how hollow your words sounded in the ears of 22 millions black people in this country.

You have committed 125,000 troops and billions of dollars in military equipment to take, as you claim, freedom to Vietnam while black people have never known one day of freedom in America. Daily we see our churches desecrated, our children beaten, jailed, abused, and witness the murders of Medgar Evers, the Birmingham Children, Jimmie Lee Jackson, James Powell, Nelson Erby and many, many others because they dared demand Freedom now.

Is this the kind of Freedom you are sending to Vietnam and expect our sons to die for? If our sons must die we prefer that they die fighting for freedom here in America.

Respectfully yours,

Dorothy Pitman
Mrs. Dorothy Pitman
150 West 80th Street
New York City, New York 10024

ANNOUNCING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF JOHN BROWN COLLEGE

IN HONOR OF THE MARTYRED ABOLITIONIST

We are seeking persons interested in participating in an advance party of staff, teachers, and students to learn, teach, and work to prepare the college for opening in the Fall term, Sept., 1966.

Our campus is located in the beautiful hill country of Delaware County (30 miles southeast of Oneonta and 3½ hours from New York City) in the town of South Kortright, New York. Our campus will provide full facilities for 60-100 students: including dormitories, dining room, student union, library, swimming, sports, recreational and cultural activities.

Our facilities and curriculum will satisfy the standards for a charter from the state for a liberal arts college and will also serve to meet the needs of today's student in search for answers to problems of a world beset by poverty, bigotry, and war.

Come to the college in the country with the world in view.

CONTACT: Acting Rector, John Brown College
South Kortright, New York 13842

Please include details of background.

MOVE ON OVER

Tune: "John Brown's Body"
(Traditional)

Words by Len H. Chandler, Jr.

Mine eyes have seen injustice in each city, town, and state
Your jails are filled with black men and your courts are white with
hate

With every bid for freedom someone whispers to us wait
That's why we keep marching on

(Chorus:) Move on over or we'll move on over you
(Repeat three times)

Oh the movement's moving on

They conspire to keep us silent in the field and in the slum
They promise us the vote and sing us we shall overcome
John Brown knew what freedom was and died to win us some
That's why we keep marching on
(Chorus - repeat)

Your dove of peace with bloody beak sinks talons in a child
You bend the olive branch to make a bow...Then with a smile you
string it with the lynch rope
You've been hiding all the while
That's why we keep marching on
(Chorus - repeat)

It is you who are subversive, you're the killers of the dream
In a savage world of bandits it is you who are extreme
You never take your earmuffs off nor listen when we scream
That's why we keep marching on
(Chorus)

I declare my independence from the fool and from the knave
I declare my independence from the coward and the slave
I declare that I will fight for right and fear no jail nor grave
That's why we keep marching on
(Chorus)

Many noble dreams are dreamed by small and voiceless men
Many noble deeds are done, the righteous to defend
We're here today, John Brown, to say we'll triumph in the end
That's why we keep marching on
(Chorus)

Copyright: Fall River Music, Inc.
200 W. 57th St.
N.Y., N.Y.

The OLD MINER

ORGANIZING BULLETIN OF JOHN BROWN COLLEGE....OCTOBER 7, 1965



ISSUED AT JOHN BROWN COLLEGE, South Kortright, N.Y. 13842
labor donated by JBC personnel

SOCIALIST SCHOLARS' CONFERENCE

John Brown College faculty attended the Socialist Scholars' Conference in N.Y.C., which was held at Columbia University on Sept. 11 & 12.

Our delegates were very pleased with the welcome that the establishment of JBC received from all with whom they spoke at the Conference. Good wishes and offers of support showered upon us from every quarter.

We have been quite aware all along of the ambitiousness of the project for the College. It has been just that much more gratifying to discover that we have so many and diverse friends and wellwishers.

BOOSTERS

A report from the Buffalo boosters of JBC is promised for #2 of The OLD MINER. This is a very active group, four of whom visited the campus recently.

It is devoutly to be hoped that many such local groups will be formed to support the College.

"The OLD MINER"

Old John Brown spent years recruiting and training his men for the foray into the South to free the slaves. Of course most of them had to go on making a living until they would be needed. The agreed secret signal for the volunteers to assemble, from which we have taken the title of our bulletin, was:

"The coal banks are open. Old miners will come at once."

ORAL LIBRARY

We intend developing an Oral Library of substantial proportions at JBC. Included in the library will, of course, be a great number of commercially available records of various categories such as folk songs, history, etc. Our main efforts, however, will be devoted to the creation of a body of taped material of a contemporaneous nature. The unique lives and experiences of many individuals will be taped so that they will not be lost to history.

Not only will this program include names that might be widely known--but the library will particularly seek out individuals who have typified the rank and file, the base and the mass of many organizations, groups and movements. Already two individuals have consented to become part of this program: A retired old-time Negro steelworker and a long-time member of the Industrial Workers of the World.

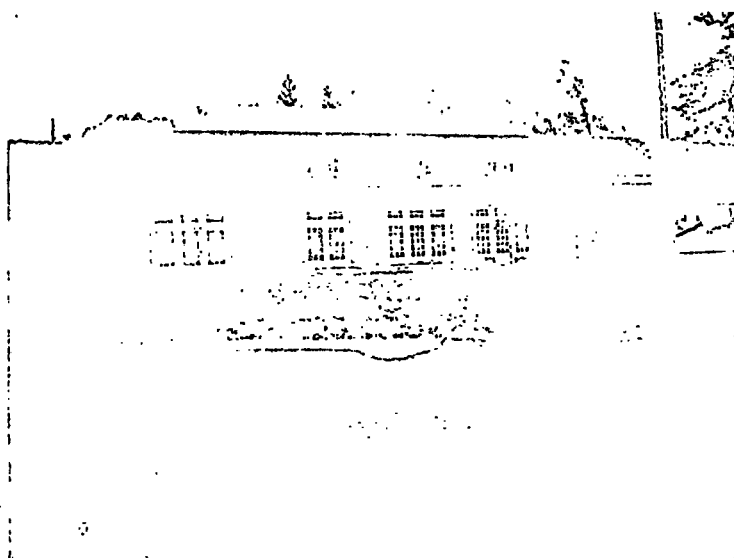
We will also record on the spot outstanding current events of the sort that commercial outfits often pass over--we have made a start here. Our first tape includes most of the proceedings of the Socialist Scholars' Conference held at Columbia University, Sept. 11-12, 1965.

Perhaps the reader knows some old rank-&-file veteran whose first-hand account should be part of JBC's Oral History project?

OUR NEXT PROJECT

Within a week we will begin work on the Stone Building.* This structure, if it were to be reproduced today, would undoubtedly cost over \$200,000. It has stone masonry walls 18" thick, slate roof, copper gutters and 6' concrete base.

This building, formerly the food-processing center of the multi-million McLean estate, will accommodate JBC's refectory and kitchen, slaughtering and processing facilities, classroom and lab, walk-in cooler and freezer (already in operation) and enough dormitory space to house 30-45 students.



BOOKS FOR JBC

We are asking our friends, supporters & boosters to send us whatever books they may think will be of value to the JBC library. We gladly accept old or new, paperback or clothbound.

We make arrangements for pickup or shipment to the College. All books donated will be identified as the donor's gifts.

ISSUED AT JOHN BROWN COLLEGE,
South Kortright, N.Y., 13842
labor donated by JBC personnel

Volume I, Number 1
Reissued November 17, 1965

This article is the first of a series of progress reports on the existing structures at JBC, and what has and will be done to physically prepare for our full-scale operation.

(* yet to be named for some hoped-for benefactor of the Building Fund!)

The frost is on the punkin', most of the farmers have their corn in, and the trees are turning. Best of all, to some, hunting season has come to Delaware County.

Pheasant, partridge, rabbit and squirrel are (hopefully) on the menu, and soon will come deer season, first for archers and then for gunners, with its prospect of savory steaks, roasts and stews. Soon the pond will be frozen for skaters, and the nearby ski slopes will be open for downhill enthusiasts.

For some, of course, the best seasonal sport of all will be sitting in front of one of our several crackling fireplaces with something cheering in hand, watching the snow fall outside.

MY BROTHER

In the distance there I see a Man,
I think he is my brother.
From far away I cannot say
His hair shade nor skin color.

But he, like I, his head holds high,
Proudly striding onward.
As he comes near, we are aware
Of family resemblance.

The tongue he speaks sounds strange to me,
His complexion from mine differs;
But as we pause and explore the laws
Of Mother Nature's making,
We soon find out, there is no doubt:
We're sons of the same mother!

The hue and cry of "He or I."
Is a viciously concocted lie!

The truth is: We--he plus me
Are; one as like the other.

H. J. Pfaff, 3-12-65

(Henry Pfaff is one of our Buffalo boosters. When he visited the College he had some very interesting stories to tell about the I.W.W. and the Palmer Raids, which we hope to incorporate in the Oral Library.)



JOHN BROWN COLLEGE IS WELCOMED
(quotes from our correspondents)

"It is the name of John Brown College that excites me.
Let us hear more..."

"I feel that young people are being educated for a strange
kind of 'success' that does not include happiness, or even
decency."

"I would love to work with the initial activity for the
establishment of a meaningful scholastic atmosphere that does
not pander either to Business or the Federal Government's
interests."

"John Brown sounds great."

"At any rate, I'm longing to go back to school and John
Brown sounds like the place."

"I find American higher education becoming a progres-
sively stifling experience for me and my students who desired
college education which really touched upon the real causes and
possible cures for the ills which, for example, the National
Guardian points out in each of its issues."

"I feel that John Brown College will provide that con-
temporary academic atmosphere which shall help immensely to en-
liven American higher education."

JOHN BROWN COLLEGE
S. Kortright, N.Y.

I pledge to contribute to John Brown College the sum of

_____ within one month from date.

_____ per month for one year.

This contribution is designated for the

General Fund. (underline one) Scholarship Fund.

signed: _____

address: _____

date: _____

(pledge card)

JOHN BROWN COLLEGE
S. Kortright, N.Y.
13842

17/23/65
-27
86-100-15332

THIRD CLASS
RETURN REQUESTED

ISSUED AT JOHN BROWN COLLEGE, SOUTH KORTRIGHT, N.Y. 13842
labor donated by JBC personnel

Saturday, Dec. 11, 1965

JOHN BROWN PILGRIMAGE CONFERENCE

Welcome to Harpers Ferry Dorothy Pitman

Mrs. Pitman welcomed the group to Harpers Ferry and expressed the desire for viewing two main places. The Wax Museum "where we can feel almost alive with what went on" and the Arsenal.

New Lyrics to Old "John Brown's Body" Len Chandler
(note: Chandler supposed to be one of top folk singers in America)

Mine eyes have seen the justice....
With every bid for freedom....

Chorus:

Move on over or We'll move on over you

You never take your earmuffs off or listen when we speak
that's why we keep moving on.

I declare my independence from the towered and the slaved
I declare that I will fight for my right...

We're here today John Brown to save and triumph to the end
and that's why we keep marching on.

Keynote Speech. Clarence Seniors
(Note: When Monroe, North Carolina, was under attack, and it still is, Seniors was one of the bravest people there--Intro. by Mrs. Pitman)

"To freedom-loving people everywhere who are carrying on the tradition of John Brown. We are here because we feel we have made progress and because we must make our revolution known. We are gathered here today for freedom and we still want freedom now. This is the time to do something about it. If we don't have freedom, we can never expect equal rights and all other things we deserve."

"We have been and still are oppressed, been shot at, our homes bombed, denied not only equal rights but denied to be real men and women. We must not only this policy ~~if new~~ freedom here today,

CONFIRM

FOR

but must carry it back to our communities. The only way to help the situation is to stand up and help our brothers and sisters the world over. We don't want a policy we must compromise on, wither."

"The Civil Rights groups even the SPicks are noted for their approach to anti-viet Nam movements. Our task is to carry on the militant task for freedom. Evidence shows that Negroes do not want to fight their black brothers and sisters in Europe, Asia, and parts of the world. They are forced into war. We would rather say here in the United States and fight for our freedom." "I firmly believe that if John Brown was around today he would be fighting for the Blacks in Viet Nam and Africa."

Speech. Truman Nelson
(Note: Nelson wrote "The Surveyor, Hero of Strength, John Brown revisits us, and latest, Torch of _____")

"John Brown is the only true revolutionist in this country. Others have been called revolutionists but those are the ones that gave us the Constitution and the Bill of Rights which were all made for the Whites. The message that John Brown brought this country was that you cannot make laws against people. We have no right to resist these laws because under our laws it is our duty perform to see that we have our rights."

"People talk about John Brown's body. Nobody talks about John Brown's brain. Almost every honest man believed that John Brown was right in his Harpers Ferry demonstration. No one should put down John Brown ethically or legally for what he did. What John Brown gave you and what you want to strengthen and build up in you is a sense of justice and righteousness, but never any consciousness of guilt within you. This is the great gift he gave to you. Without any thoughts John Brown and his sons came and put their lives on the line and died for a race that wasn't even their own. John Brown's actions can be summed up in that Negroes are folks like everyone else." "Many here will never strike a blow for the cause, but carry on by bringing the name of John Brown back until it rings. You can go any place in the world and mention John Brown's name, and everyone knows what it means in fighting to be free and in dying to be free."

"John Brown would have sinned not it he had done what he did for the rich or those in command. But because he was doing it for the oppressed, he was rejected and despised."

SpeechHarold Head
(Note: Head escaped from South Africa and came to U.S. in 1964.
He is presently a student at Lincoln University.)

"I am from a country where the government is similar to the government in this country. We live in a government almost entirely composed of whites and executed by whites. The U. S. is the only country in the world where I do not feel so far removed from the struggle at home. I really wanted to come to the U.S. but found that the people here aren't any better to me.

However, there is one main difference in the similarities of our government. Where we sit together today and express our sentiments, in South Africa this just isn't done. It would be an offense. Unlike here, everything is indoctrinated underground in South Africa.

Draft Resolution.Wm. Pittman

One hundred and six years ago John Brown attacked the Federal Arsenal here in Harpers Ferry. This helped to start the Civil War. The spirit of John Brown lives on in our hearts for this.

Today we acknowledge Patrice Lamond and we have not forgotten Robert Williams in exile in Cuba.

We who are here today declare our independence from the dark and uncertain.

(later refers to House of Representatives as the Unrepresentative House

DiscussionQuestion directed to panel

Panel composed of:

Booker Nelson-Greenwood, Mississippi and Rep. from Miss. Freedom Labor Union.

Harold Head- S. Africa

Clarence Seniors-N.C.

Conrad Lynn- an attorney

Truman Nelson

Stephen Jacoby

William Pittman

Dr. Nathan _____ - from Howard University

At this time a resolution was made and seconded by Wm. Brenton to accept The Draft Resolution.

One speaker stated:

"If our resistance to white supremacy leads to another Civil War, then let it go on."

Question from Audience: Why are we bothering to present the Draft Resolution to the Senate, they never do anything for us anyhow?

Panel's Answer: We will demand the Senate and House to pass this. We are not apologizing for John Brown nor are we petitioning Congress. We are just realizing our duty.

Speech.Booker Nelson

I am proud to be here. Proud to be here to let you all know what is going on in Mississippi. There's a lot of trouble down there. There's ~~two~~ things that happen to Negroes who register and live on plantations: (1) If you register you get kicked off the plantation (2) If you are on welfare, the check is cut down to \$10 to \$12 if you register. You cannot send your children to school like you are supposed to. They don't have shoes to wear. They have to spend 30¢ a day for lunch--lunches which they cannot afford..

I am Proud to meet Mr. and Mrs. Pitman (chairmen of this conference). I have ridden all night on a bus to get here.

To me this meeting is a great sign of coming to maturity of an American revolutionary movement because in this audience our people have many different ideas but have come here because we have respect for each other. This seems to indicate the unity of the problem we face--that of the U.S. Government. This unity of the Negroes against the white supremacy will lead to a division in the U. S. We welcome this division. We are determined to force the white supremacy from power throughout the world. We will destroy the government which threatens us. Only in this way can American imperialism be stopped."

Mrs. Pittman:

The John Brown Commemoration Committee for the next pilgrimage

on Dec. 2, 1966, it is organized so that we can spend a weekend here so that "We can go into a lot of things." Encourage others to accompany you next time.

Song about Viet Nam. Len Chandler

Things are in a jam down in Viet Nam
The people down there are the viet Cong

Chorus: A rule by the people just can't be wrong, but
You're wrong Sam Scram, don't you know you'd better get gone

Song about Statue of Liberty 1 Len Chandler

We're here, we're tired and poor
She faces out to sea
Turn around I say, touch your torch and shine a little light
on me.
Turn around Miss Liberty, touch your torch to the Cotton Curtain
and shine a little light on me.

Mrs. Pitman:

I wish to urge you to talk to the unions in your community to get them to support the Miss. Labor Union. Mr. Nelson (Booker Nelson) is here with us today. Let's take him back to New York with us, get some money, talk to the unions and try to get them to give clothing and food to him to take back to Miss. Could we get a commitment to send him home with money, food, and clothes?

Man from Audience: Is it possible to take up a collection here to include people from all other areas other than just New York.

Man from Puerto Rico: "I will get people in Puerto Rico to help the people in Miss. ~~XXX~~ We feel that the people in Viet Name and Miss. Are our brothers also.

Jean _____ (woman from audience): "when we take over the government we don't have to stand for this type of treatment. We will commemorate John Brown's birthday like the whites do Dec. 25."

Page 6

Mrs. Pitman (in adjourning)

Go back and build in your neighborhood and support the Deacons of Justice.

Note: On retiring from the dining hall, A rebel flag of Mr. Kilham's was burned in the lobby. No one would admit who did it.

DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

11/30/65

SAC, BALTIMORE (157-1008) *[Signature]*

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.
RACIAL MATTERS
OO: NEW ORLEANS

Re Pittsburgh letter to Bureau 10/12/65; New York
letter to Bureau 10/28/65; Pittsburgh airtel to Bureau
11/3/65.

Enclosed for New Orleans is one copy each of
Baltimore airtel to Bureau 8/17/65 and re Pittsburgh letter
and airtel.

On 11/19/65, Mr. ROBERT E. DUDLEY, Agent, Albert
L. Zahn Agency, Real Estate and Property Management,
219 W. Washington St., Hagerstown, Md., was discretely
interviewed by SA ROBERT I. MC ENROE relative to the
Kennedy farm and farmhouse, commonly referred to as
'JOHN BROWN's Farm' located in the southern part of
Washington County, Md., mailing address of Rt. 1, Harper's
Perry, West Va. It was determined that this property,
previously utilized as a 'regional' headquarters for the
Negro Elks, has been for sale for sometime. Dr. JAMES
JULIAN, Silver Springs, Md., described by DUDLEY as 'a
prominent and wealthy Negro doctor', has signed a contract
of sale with DUDLEY for the purchase of this property.
DUDLEY advised 11/26/65 has been set as the date for closing
this transaction, on which date Dr. JULIAN will take title
to this property.

It was further determined from DUDLEY that there has
been no affairs held at 'JOHN BROWN's Farm' in recent
months, and he was unaware of any meetings or gatherings
of any size to be held at this site within the coming months.
DUDLEY is unaware of the use to which Dr. JULIAN plans
to put this property; he thought Dr. JULIAN might have
intentions of establishing a boys camp there.

- 2 - Bureau (REGISTERED MAIL)
- 1 - New York (157-1542) (Info) REGISTERED MAIL
- 2 - New Orleans (157-3290 (Enc. 3) REGISTERED MAIL
- 1 - Pittsburgh (157-429) (Info) REGISTERED MAIL
- ① - Baltimore

RIM:par

(7) *[Signature]*

SEARCHED _____
INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED *[Signature]*
FILED _____

157-1008-13

BA 157-1008

In view of the above and the information contained in re Pittsburgh airtel 11/3/65 reflecting that captioned organization apparently has scheduled the affair, planned for 12/4/65, at the Hilltop House, Harper's Ferry, West Va., on 12/11/65, no further investigation of this matter is being conducted by Baltimore and no contact with Dr. JULIAN is being considered. Baltimore indices contained no information on Dr. JULIAN.

FD-160 (Rev. 10-1-59)

Date _____

11-24-65

Aliases

Address

Birth Date

Birthplace

Race

Sex

☐ Male☐ Female☐ Exact Spelling

☐ All References

Main Subversive Case Files Only

☐ Subversive References Only

☐ Main Criminal Case Files Only

☐ Criminal References Only

☐ Main Subversive (If no Main list all Subversive References)

☐ Main Criminal (If no Main list all Criminal References)

☐ Restrict to Locality of _____

File & Serial Number

Remarks

File & Serial Number

Remarks

James Julian

87-8614*

James A Julian

77-11987-10

Dr James S Julian Jr

27-17987-10

James T/A Julian

98-0-422

Requested by

Squad	
-------	--

Extension

File No

Searched by

Consolidated by

Reviewed by

File Review Symbols

I Identical

NI - Not identical

? - Not identifiable

U Unavailable reference

TO: SAC,

☐ Albany
☐ Albuquerque
☐ Anchorage
☐ Atlanta
☒ Baltimore
☐ Birmingham
☐ Boston
☐ Buffalo
☐ Butte
☐ Charlotte
☐ Chicago
☐ Cincinnati
☐ Cleveland
☐ Dallas
☐ Denver
☐ Detroit
☐ El Paso
☐ Honolulu

☐ Houston
☐ Indianapolis
☐ Jackson
☐ Jacksonville
☐ Kansas City
☐ Knoxville
☐ Las Vegas
☐ Little Rock
☐ Los Angeles
☐ Louisville
☐ Memphis
☐ Miami
☐ Milwaukee
☐ Minneapolis
☐ Mobil
☐ Newark
☐ New Haven
☐ New Orleans

☐ New York City
☐ Norfolk
☐ Oklahoma City
☐ Omaha
☐ Philadelphia
☐ Phoenix
☐ Pittsburgh
☐ Portland
☐ Richmond
☐ St. Louis
☐ Salt Lake City
☐ San Antonio
☐ San Diego
☐ San Francisco
☐ San Juan
☐ Savannah
☐ Seattle
☐ Springfield

☐ Tampa
☐ Washington Field
☐ Quantico

TO LEGAT:

☐ Bern
☐ Bonn
☐ Buenos Aires
☐ London
☐ Manila
☐ Mexico, D.F.
☐ Ottawa
☐ Paris
☐ Rome
☐ Rio de Janeiro
☐ Tokyo

Date 11/9/65

RE: **DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.
RACIAL MATTERS**

☒ For information ☐ Retention optional ☐ For appropriate action ☐ Supp. by _____
☐ The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, ☐ conceal all sources, ☐ paraphrase contents.
☐ Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____

Remarks: **For the information of all offices, the correct title of captioned group is DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC. and not DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.**

*Admstr
9/1/66*

157-1008-12
157-3290

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
NOV - 9 1965	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

[Signature]

Enc.
Bufile **157-2466**
Urfile **00 - New Orleans (157-3290)**

F B I

Date: 11/3/65

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)To: Director, FBI and
SAC, New York

From: SAC, Pittsburgh (157-429) (P)

THE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE
RACIAL MATTERS

Re Newark airtel to Bureau, 9/20/65; Baltimore letter to Bureau, 9/22/65, and Pittsburgh letter to Bureau, 10/12/65.

It is noted that Newark LHM, which was forwarded with re Newark airtel dated 9/20/65, indicated that some affair was to be held at Harpers Ferry, Maryland, on 12/4/65 in honor of JOHN BROWN.

On 10/25/65, ANDREW HUTCHINSON, Park Ranger, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, advised SA EDWARD R. FLEMING, JR., that two Negro women, Mrs. WILLIAM PITMAN, 180 West 80th Street, New York, New York, and Mrs. ESTHER KUSIC, 115 Ashland Place, Brooklyn, N. Y., were in Harpers Ferry, W. Va., on 10/21/65 ostensibly representing, to the best of HUTCHINSON's recollection, the "John Brown Remembrance Society". HUTCHINSON stated he had made this identification of these individuals based on their signatures on a guest register located at the Mather Training Center of the National Park Service, Harpers Ferry (which was formerly a Negro Baptist college, Storer College).

HUTCHINSON continued that Mrs. PITMAN and Mrs. KUSIC were seeking a place to hold a meeting which would be attended by about 700 people and they indicated a desire to hold the meeting on 12/4/65. The women determined that no facilities

3 - Bureau
2 - New York (157-1542)
1 - Pittsburgh

1 - Baltimore (157-1008)(Info)

JTM/jep
(8)

*photo cc forwarded w/le
to N. C. 11/30/65, Bar*

157-1008-11
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NOV 11 1965
FBI - BALTIMORE

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

PG 157-429

were available for such a meeting on 12/4/65 and they therefore selected 12/11/65 as the proposed date for said meeting. They determined that a banquet could be held at the Hilltop House, a privately owned Harpers Ferry restaurant-hotel, and that the Hilltop House could accommodate 350 people.

HUTCHINSON stated that the women had spoken with Harpers Ferry Park Historian, WES WOLFE, and were outspoken in complaints concerning various biographies of JOHN BROWN. It was HUTCHINSON's recollection that the women were sympathetic to a man named DuBOIS, who had either attended Storer College in the past or was a benefactor of that college. HUTCHINSON also stated that it was his recollection that this individual named DuBOIS later became a communist and went to Ghana.

The indices of the Pittsburgh Office are negative concerning John Brown Remembrance Society, Mrs. WILLIAM PITMAN, and Mrs. ESTHER KUSIC.

It would appear that the above meeting arranged to be held on 12/11/65 at the Hilltop House in Harpers Ferry might possibly be identical with the meeting referred to in above Newark LHM.

New York and the Bureau are requested to check their respective files with regard to the John Brown Remembrance Society, Mrs. WILLIAM PITMAN, and Mrs. ESTHER KUSIC, and advise Pittsburgh of the results thereof.

New York is also requested to check with its informants to ascertain whether the above-mentioned meeting scheduled for 12/11/65 is an affair being held in behalf of The Deacons for Defense.

In the event it is determined that the John Brown Remembrance Society has some affiliation with The Deacons for Defense, New York is requested to furnish a suitable characterization of The Deacons for Defense which, UACB, will be disseminated by this office to the National Park Service and the West Virginia State Police detachment covering Harpers Ferry, W. Va.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (157-1542) (P)

SUBJECT: THE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE
RACIAL MATTERS

DATE: 10/28/65

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

Re Newark airtel and LHM to the Bureau, dated 9/20/65.

On 10/6/65, [redacted] reliable, advised BILL (LNU), described by [redacted] in re LHM as the bartender, male, of Cuban or Puerto Rican decent, 5'10", 160 pounds, dark brown hair, near olive complexion, clean shaving and angular face, is BILL PITMAN.

BILL PITMAN was the subject of [redacted] in which is reflected that through the cooperation of Postal Inspector J.M. BURKE, Postal Inspector's Office, United States Post Office, 33rd Street and 8th Avenue, New York City, on 1/25/63, SAS of the NYO photographed names and addresses of a number of persons to whom copies of the "Worker's World" were mailed on that date. BILL and DOROTHY PITMAN were listed as residing at 150 West 80th Street, Apartment 9C, New York, New York. This is the same address [redacted] indicated BILL (LNU) and a group of nine men and seven women went to after leaving a benefit for the Deacons on 9/18/65.

- 2 - Bureau
- ② - Baltimore
- 2 - Jackson
- 1 - Newark (157-1492)
- 2 - New Orleans
- 1 - New York (157-1549) (BILL PITMAN) (43)
- 1 - New York

GAJ:lls
(12)

157-1008-

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FBI - BALTIMORE	

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This document must be reclassified prior to its release from Baltimore Division. See in cabinet marked "Reclassification Documents"

NY 157-1542

On September 17, 1964, Detective RAYMOND J. CLARKE, Bureau of Special Services (BSS), New York City Police Department (NYCPD), advised that WILLIAM PITMAN is Chairman of the West Side CORE, located at 100 West 82nd St., NYC.

On February 28, 1965, [redacted] insufficient contact to determine reliability, [redacted] advised WILLIAM C. PITMAN is an Irish alien who has a Negro wife and two children. She stated that at the present time, PITMAN has applied for American citizenship and has received application for "first papers".

[redacted] alleged that PITMAN has been very active in the present Civil Rights program of the Negro. She alleged that he had organized a "West Side CORE", but this organization was rebuffed by CORE as not being an official branch of the main organization.

On 10/20/65, [redacted] made available a leaflet indicating a "discotheque party" was to be held 9/25/65, at 9:30 PM, under the auspices of "The John Brown Commemoration Committee" (JBCC), 100 W. 82nd St., NY 24, NY, Phone EN 2-4954. It is to be noted that this is the address where the benefit for the DDJ was held on 9/18/65.

NYO indices negative re JBCC.

On 10/27/65, Detective ALONZO STANLEY, BSS, NYCPD, advised their files contain no information re JBCC.

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

DIRECTOR, FBI

10/12/65

SAC, PITTSBURGH (157-429) (RUC)

THE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE
RM

Re Baltimore letter to the Bureau dated 9/22/65.

On 10/4/65, CLYDE B. KING, Management Assistant, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, Harpers Ferry, W. Va., advised that there is no known meeting place in Harpers Ferry, W. Va., which might be used for a meeting of the Deacons For Defense, with the exception of the high school auditorium and the National Park Service facilities at the Mather Training Center. KING said that to his knowledge there has been no effort made by any group to have any type of a meeting in Harpers Ferry, W. Va., on 12/4/65.

KING identified 12/4 as the anniversary of the date of the hanging of JOHN BROWN at nearby Charles Town, W. Va.

It is noted that the Harpers Ferry, W. Va. Post Office services much of the nearby area located in the State of Maryland.

KING said that the I.B.P.O.E. W. (Negro Elks) have their national headquarters at what is known as the Kennedy Farmhouse, which is actually the farmhouse used by JOHN BROWN and his raiders before their attack on the arsenal at Harpers Ferry in 1859. This farmhouse is located in Maryland, approximately one-half mile from the Samples Manor Church. KING pointed out that the property owned by the I.B.P.O.E.W. includes various outlying buildings besides the Kennedy Farmhouse and specifically, a large hall which has offices and a large dance hall. He pointed out that meetings can be REOPENED

2-Bureau
②-Baltimore (157-1008)
1-Newark (157-1992)(Info)
1-Pittsburgh (157-429)

ERF:djr
(6)

157-1008-9 DATE 10-18-65

157-1008-7

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PG 157-429

held in this specific building located at the Kennedy Farmhouse.

KING said that the I.B.P.O.E.W. is now in the process of selling their holdings at the Kennedy Farmhouse with the intention of moving their headquarters to the West Coast, but that no buyer for the property has been found to date.

LEADS

BALTIMORE

At Sandy Hook, Md.

Will locate the facility owned by the I.B.P.O.E.W. and through established sources, identify the affair planned for 12/4/65.

DIRECTOR, FBI

9/22/65

SAC, BALTIMORE (157-1008)

THE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE
RM

Re Newark AT and LHM dated 9/20/65.

Reference to all available publications, maps, postal guides, etc. fails to disclose a Harpers Ferry, Maryland. Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, is just across the Maryland line and source in referenced airtel could have meant the affair in honor of John Brown to be held at the West Virginia location.

Enclosed for Pittsburgh office is a copy of referenced airtel and letterhead memorandum.

2 - Bureau
1 - Newark (157-1992)
2 - Pittsburgh (Encl. 2)
① - Baltimore
BFN:ers *ers*
(6)

This document must be reclassified prior to its release from Baltimore Division. See in cabinet marked "Reclassification Documents"

Searched _____
Serialized MK
Indexed _____
Filed MK

157-1008-8

This document must be reclassified prior to its release from Baltimore Division. See classifying documents in Closed File Section in cabinet marked "Reclassification Documents"

Date: 9/20/65

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEWARK (157-1992) (RUC)

SUBJECT: THE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE
RACIAL MATTERS

Deacons of Defense and Justice
*157-1008**

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

Re New York airtel to the Bureau dated 9/14/65.

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of letterhead memorandum captioned as above. Enclosed for Baltimore and New York are two copies of letterhead memorandum. Enclosed for Jackson and New Orleans is one copy each of letterhead memorandum.

No copy of referenced communication was sent to Baltimore.

The source referred to in the letterhead memorandum is [redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the past. A written report was obtained from the informant by SA JAMES R. LAUGHLIN on 9/20/65, which report will be filed in Newark File [redacted]

For the information of Baltimore, The Deacons for Defense and Justice (believed to be identical with captioned organization) are a militant Negro civil rights group who have vowed to fight the Ku Klux Klan with physical violence, if necessary.

- 3 - Bureau (Encs. 3)
- ② - Baltimore (Encs. 2) *RM*
- 1 - New Orleans (Enc. 1) (Info)
- 1 - Jackson (Enc. 1) (Info)
- 2 - New York (157-1542) (Encs. 2)
- 3 - Newark

Approved: (1 - [redacted] FOIA b 7 - D)
JRL:ks Special Agent in Charge
(12)

Sent _____

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NK 157-1992

For the additional information of Baltimore, New York in re airtel advised that the West Side Unified Action Council (WSUAC) is located at 100 West 82nd St., New York City, according to the current New York City Address Telephone Directory. The WSUAC was formerly known as West Side CORE. (Source: [redacted] on 1/2/65 - reliable) The WSUAC has sponsored or co-sponsored demonstrations, rallies, and/or fund-raising affairs during 1965 with one or more of the following organizations:

The Upper West Side Du Bois Club

The Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee

The Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party

LEADS

BALTIMORE

At Harpers Ferry, Md.: Identify the planned affair on 12/4/65 in honor of JOHN BROWN, mentioned in enclosed LHM and advise the Bureau.

NEW YORK

At New York City, New York: Attempt to identify BILL (LNU), mentioned in enclosed LHM and advise Bureau, Baltimore, Jackson, New Orleans and Newark.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Newark, New Jersey

September 20, 1965

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

THE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE
RACIAL MATTERS

A source advised on September 20, 1965, that on Saturday, September 18, 1965, a party to benefit the Deacons for Defense was attended from about midnight, September 18, 1965, to about 4 a.m., September 19, 1965. The party was held at 100 West 82nd Street, first floor, New York City.

About 200 - 250 persons were at the party which consisted of drinking and dancing. The only persons known by name were Juanita (last name unknown), who is a Negro female, 5'2" tall, 110 pounds, age 35-40, black hair, dark brown complexion; Bill (last name unknown), the bartender, male, of Cuban or Puerto Rican descent, 5'10" tall, 160 pounds, dark brown hair, near olive complexion, clean-shaven, angular face; and Bertha (last name unknown), Negro female, age around 30, height 5'8", 135 pounds, medium brown complexion.

A group of women appeared to be sponsoring this party. The group consisted of five white women and eight Negro women. They had various duties. One of them announced that the party had made a profit of over \$400.

After the party broke up, a group of nineteen and seven women went to Apartment 9-C, at 150 West 80th Street, New York City. This appeared to be the apartment of Bill (last name unknown), the bartender, and one of the women who was in charge of the party.

At the apartment, Bill remarked that parties are held every Saturday at 100 West 82nd Street, New York City, to raise money for various causes. The impression was received that money was raised mainly for civil rights activity.

Bill also remarked that he intended on September 19, 1965, to go to Harper's Ferry, Maryland, to arrange for

157-1008-6

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THE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE

some affair to be held there on December 4, 1965, in honor of John Brown. Bill indicated he would make this trip later in the week.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It is the property of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

8/17/65

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, BALTIMORE (157-New)
SUBJECT: THE COMMITTEE TO AID THE DEACONS
RM

Re SA airtel, dated 8/9/65.

Baltimore indices are negative on MARK KLEIN.

3 - Bureau
2 - San Antonio
① - Baltimore
MEG:ers
(6) *ers*

*Photo is forwarded in/l
to N.O. 11/30/65, Bar*

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157-1008-5

SAC, San Antonio

8/16/65

Director, FBI (157-2466)

**DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
RACIAL MATTERS**

ReSAairtel 8/9/65 captioned "The Committee to Aid the Deacons," with copies to Albany and Baltimore; Buairtel to New Orleans 7/19/65.

Enclosed for New Orleans is a Xerox copy of referenced San Antonio airtel.

Enclosed for San Antonio, Baltimore and Albany is a Xerox copy of referenced Bureau airtel 7/19/65 and a Xerox copy of a "Wall Street Journal" article 7/12/65 concerning captioned organization.

San Antonio should promptly submit letterhead memorandum (LHM), with copies to New Orleans, regarding attempts to form a committee to aid the Deacons of Defense and Justice in Austin, Texas, as set forth in reairtel 8/9/65. Local dissemination should be made to Secret Service and the military intelligence.

Upon receipt of background data concerning Mark Klein and further information regarding attempts to organize the Deacons in Austin, Texas, San Antonio should consider interviewing Klein. A search of Bureau indices will be made upon receipt of identifying data on Mark Klein.

Enclosures (2)

- 2 - Albany - Enclosures (2)
- ② - Baltimore - Enclosures (2) *alt.*
- 2 - New Orleans (157-3290) - Enclosure

157-1008-4

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B. Martin

7/19/65

Airtel

To: SACs, New Orleans (157-3290) (Enc.)
Birmingham (157-1446) (Enc.)
Charlotte (157-882) (Enc.)
Jackson (157-3465) (Enc.)
Jacksonville (157-new) (Enc.)
Mobile (157-1017) (Enc.)
Savannah (157-731) (Enc.)

From: Director, FBI (157-2466)

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
RACIAL MATTERS
OO: NEW ORLEANS

ReBuairtel to New Orleans dated 2/26/65. NOairtel to Bureau 3/26/65, and Noteletype 7/14/65.

Enclosed for each office is one copy of a "Wall Street Journal" article dated 7/12/65, entitled "More Dixie Negroes Buy Arms to Retaliate Against White Attacks."

For the information of Offices receiving this communication, the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc., is a Negro organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Louisiana with headquarters at Jonesboro, Louisiana. The Deacons has as one of its purposes, the arming of Negroes for protection against Klan violence and recently has been active in racial demonstrations in Bogalusa, Louisiana. In addition to the enclosed article, it has received wide publicity. It has been reported in news articles, such as the enclosed, that the Deacons has 50 to 55 chapters in several states; it allegedly has 5,000 to 15,000 members and has acquired a large number of weapons. Bureau investigation to date has not substantiated apparent exaggerated claims. At early organizational meetings in Bogalusa, Louisiana, in February, 1965, Deacon leaders boasted that they had sources who could furnish large amounts of weapons and ammunition including automatic weapons. It is necessary, therefore, that we obtain complete facts as to the organization's actual strength.

157-1008-3

me

[Handwritten signature]

Airtel to SAC, New Orleans
RE: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE
157-2466

ReNOairtel of 3/26/65, sets forth leads to interview officers and leaders of the Deacons in an effort to obtain details concerning membership, arms and activities. New Orleans immediately conduct interviews of Deacons' officers with the purposes of obtaining complete information regarding the organization and discouraging illegal arming and illegal acts.

It is noted that the recipient offices, except New Orleans, advised by teletypes 7/14-15/65, that the organization did not exist in their territories. Nevertheless, all offices receiving this communication will immediately conduct appropriate investigation to determine if there are any Deacons' Chapters in their respective Divisions. Promptly advise the Bureau of the existence of any Deacons' Chapters or attempts to organize. Determine leadership, strength of membership, activities, and arms acquired. Be especially alert for any large supply of arms and their source. Disseminate all pertinent information to Army Intelligence and Secret Service, locally. Promptly submit letterhead memoranda concerning developments.

New Orleans, as Office of origin, is instructed to submit an investigative report within thirty days which should include results of all investigation to date.

Race & Violence

More Dixie Negroes Buy Arms to Retaliate Against White Attacks

Secret Societies Are Formed In Many Towns; Rights Groups Caught in Middle

Non-Violence Coming to End?

By FRED L. ZIMMERMAN

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

With few exceptions, the pattern of Negro protest in Dixie has been one of passive non-violence. But in the rural South this summer, fear is mounting that angry Negroes are ready to reject the Biblical injunction to "turn the other cheek" and embrace an older, harsher code—an eye for an eye.

In a surprising number of small, sleepy towns in the South, bands of militant, heavily armed Negroes are forming in near-secrecy. They are locally led, and they share an open contempt for the doctrine of non-violence that the major civil rights organizations espouse. Their rapid spread into at least six states in the South is alarming law enforcement officers and moderate groups working for racial harmony, who fear a major bloodletting in rural areas may result.

Last week, a Negro man in Bogalusa, La., shot and critically wounded a white man witnesses say attacked him. There were conflicting reports about whether the Negro was a member of the Deacons for Defense and Justice, an armed Negro group whose center of strength is Bogalusa. Earlier racial strife in this hate-filled town involved shootings into Negro homes by night riders believed to be members of the Ku Klux Klan—and retaliatory fire at their autos by the Deacons. Gunfire also has crackled in Jonesboro, La., where the same Negro group has an active organization.

"Hitting Back"

The armed groups claim their only purpose is to protect the Negro community from violence by an increasingly hostile—and also armed—Klan now resurgent in many areas of the rural South. "If the Klan tries to hit us they will get hit back," vows the leader of one group. There could be "hitting back" in many a town this summer, for the armed bands are growing rapidly.

The Deacons, largest and best organized of the groups, operate openly in Bogalusa and Jonesboro. But their chapters are operating in near-secrecy in many other towns. An interview with a top Deacon official, and subsequent checking with local leaders, tends to confirm the presence of over 50 active chapters; the center of power is in Louisiana and in the Mississippi Delta. But lately the Deacons have formed groups in "three or four" counties of northern Florida, in several towns in South Carolina, in two towns in western North Carolina, and in Alabama.

The Deacon official, who requests anonymity for himself and asks that the names of the towns not be published to avoid Klan reprisals, will give no figures on the Deacons' total strength. This has been variously estimated by other sources at between 5,000 and 15,000. Organizers insist that Negroes desiring formation of a chapter be able to round up a minimum of 25 members and finance a trip to their town for the organizer. Members pay their local chapters an initiation fee of \$10, usually used for guns and ammunition, and give monthly donations.

Parallel Klan Build-up

In almost every case, the formation of these groups results from parallel buildups in Klan strength and activity in their areas. The Klan now has a state charter to do business in North Carolina, and cross-burnings in the western part of the state have inspired interest in the Deacons there. In one small town a local Negro resident tells of reading about the armed group in Jet magazine, a Negro publication, and sending away to the Deacons for information. He keeps nine guns in his home, six loaded at all times, and notes that many Negroes in town are buying weapons now. A new Deacon chapter is being formed.

Besides the Deacons, there are other informal armed organizations springing up in the South. "These groups are all over the state now, and I'm glad they're around," says Charles Evers, Mississippi field secretary for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Though they profess non-violence, major civil rights organizations have refused to disavow the Deacons and other armed groups—possibly because to do so would rob them of local support needed for their own projects. James Farmer, national director of the Congress of Racial Equality, comments: "CORE is a non-violent organization and anyone who participates in our demonstrations must pledge himself to non-violence. But I don't feel I have any right to tell a Negro community they don't have the right to defend the sanctity of their homes."

157-1008-2

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Race & Violence: More Negroes Take Up Arms Against White Attacks

"Defensive Violence"

Even some staff members of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference headed by the Rev. Martin Luther King, the foremost champion of passive, non-violent protest, give a carefully hedged defense of the Deacons. "There is such a thing as the cup of endurance running over," says an aide. "Dr. King's position makes a distinction between defensive violence and aggressive violence. I think the Deacons come in the category of defensive violence." But he adds: "The goal of a non-violent movement is to create a community where people can live in harmony—and I don't think guns help that."

Many organizations working for peaceful integration agree, and go still further. "If the Deacons really catch hold, it could mean the end of non-violence in some areas of the South. Potentially, this is an extremely serious development, which could cause a wave of violence with national repercussions," says Paul Anthony, field director of the Southern Regional Council, a highly respected biracial organization studying race relations.

Ozell Sutton, associate director of the Arkansas Council on Human Relations, says: "Someday there's going to be a real blood-bath somewhere. I hate to say it, but by

nature Negroes aren't any more non-violent than anybody else." Louisiana Gov. John J. McKeithen feels the Deacons "increase the possibility for violence." And W. J. Simmons, National Coordinator of the segregationist Citizens Councils of America, predicts: "The Deacons will move Southern whites toward more violence, besides costing the civil rights movement a lot of liberal sympathy in the North."

There already is evidence that the position of both whites and Negroes has hardened appreciably in Bogalusa, where the Deacons have their greatest strength. "If violence has to settle this, then the sooner the better," declares a Bogalusa man widely assumed by residents to be a leader of that area's powerful and highly secretive Klan organization. Referring to the Deacons, he says: "I don't care how many guns that bunch of black Mau Maus has, they don't have the prerequisite guts."

Violence Expected

Robert Hicks, vice president of Bogalusa's Civic and Voter League, a local Negro organization whose membership overlaps with that of the Deacons, talks ominously of Bogalusa's future. "We're going to have a war. I honestly believe that." What about non-violence? "My idea of a non-violent person is one who isn't looking for trouble. But we're not about to double up like the CORE people do when we're attacked," he replies.

A visitor to Bogalusa, a once-peaceful paper mill town 65 miles north of New Orleans, finds it has become, in the words of a local white minister, "an armed camp." Three persons—Negro and white—offer to lend the visitor guns "for your own protection." The streets are almost deserted after dark save for police officers standing watchfully by their squad cars.

Mrs. Hicks, wife of the local Negro leader, had a few friends over for coffee the other day. There was no talk of the weather, children, or other wifely chitchat. Sitting in the dining room near a stand holding four shotguns and ammunition, they talked of the threat of violence. "I'm going to get me a machine

gun or some hand grenades," one woman said. In the living room, Mr. Hicks hauled out a loaded 30-30 Winchester rifle for visitors' inspection.

He claims the formation of the Deacons has nearly ended the practice of firing into Negro homes at night, a practice attributed to the Klan. "We've got them scared now," says Mr. Hicks, pulling aside the drapes at his picture window to scrutinize a passing car. "Five or six men stay here every night, and if a mob attacked we could have 30 guns on them in a minute."

"The Well-Wishers"

Besides their regular members, the Bogalusa Deacons can press into service an armed "militia" of sorts called "the well-wishers." These are Negroes who prefer not to ally themselves openly with the organization, and who remain on call in case of the "war" Mr. Hicks envisions.

The large contingent of FBI agents in Bogalusa—at least 30 were there one week recently—is known to be watching the Deacons closely. The FBI won't discuss its activities, but Bogalusa's public safety commissioner, Arnold D. Splers, reports the agents are monitoring the group's walkie-talkie transmissions—and adds that the Deacons are, in turn, monitoring local police calls. Deacons using citizen-band radios commonly patrol Negro districts, guard the homes of local leaders, and stay alert for possible white attacks during civil rights demonstrations and meetings.

Col. Ben F. Ragusa, assistant superintendent of the Louisiana State Police, says informants attending meetings of the Deacons report the group is monitoring state police radio calls, too, and has made plans to "congregate at the scene if a Negro is being arrested. If the Deacons decided the Negro wasn't getting fair treatment, they'd try to take him away from us by force."

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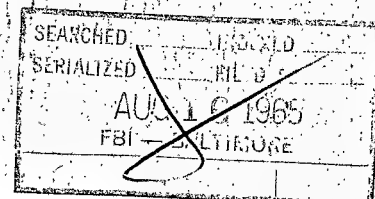
Mayor Jesse Cutrer of Bogalusa says the city has prepared an emergency ordinance providing for the confiscation of firearms if an armed conflict threatens. "The ordinance is probably illegal," he concedes, "but it might take two weeks to thrash it out in court and in the meantime we could have prevented something serious." Gun laws in the South, while varying from state to state, generally allow persons to carry weapons as long as they're not concealed.

Defensive Role Stressed

The Deacons stress over and over that they will only use their weapons to defend themselves against white attacks, and require new members to sign pledges to that effect. "We're constantly riding all the members all the time about this," says Charles Sims, president of the Bogalusa Deacons. The Deacons contend that the failure of Southern law enforcement agencies to protect Negroes adequately and impartially against Klan violence makes the formation of defensive units such as theirs necessary.

It's true that much of their activity is, in effect, guard duty. A Deacon chapter in Varadero, La., a town of 331 persons seven miles north of Bogalusa, has been formed to protect the widow of Oneal Moore, a Negro deputy sheriff slain in June. Mr. Hicks in Bogalusa says she has received phone calls threatening violence to her and desecration of her husband's grave.

But to Southern law enforcement agencies—and to many groups trying to promote integration without violence—these armed bands are essentially vigilantes posing an increasing threat of bloodshed. "They're a threat to society," declares Commissioner Splers. In Jackson, Miss., which has no known armed groups now, M. B. Pierce, chief of detectives, declares: "If they show up here we're not going to fool around with them. Our response would be that they can do the civil righting and we'll do the law enforcing."



8/9/65

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, SAN ANTONIO (157-NEW) (P)

RE: THE COMMITTEE TO AID THE DEACONS
RACIAL MATTERS

In the August 8, 1965, issue of the San Antonio Light, daily, San Antonio, Texas, newspaper an article appeared stating that MARK KLEIN, a Cornell University student is responsible for the formation of captioned group in Austin, Texas, the purpose of which is to aid the "Deacons for Defense and Justice." KLEIN described the "Deacons" as "an armed Negro self-defense group." Information also developed that KLEIN also is known in the Baltimore area.

*91-1631 * PNT
Klein (fmr)
Klein (fmr)
see attached*

Information developed by SA GEORGE W. H. CARLSON at Austin reflects KLEIN plans to remain in Austin until November 1965.

LEADS

ALBANY

AT ALBANY, NEW YORK

Will check records at Cornell University regarding MARK KLEIN for background information. Also advise San Antonio Division any information of value regarding subject available in files of Albany Division.

3 - Bureau
2 - Albany
② - Baltimore
3 - San Antonio (157-NEW)
(1 - 157-316)
JJC / jb
(10)

*Screening
11/17/65*

*157-1008-1
B. J. Norton
or albu*

SA 157-NEW

BALTIMORE

AT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

Will advise San Antonio any information available regarding the background of KLEIN.

(Title) _____

(File No.) 157-10031. Conc photo of Earnest Thomas #1 of his car (9/20/66) [unclear]

Disposition:

157-1003-17

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
SEP 26 1966	
FBI - BALTIMORE	

[Signature]

File No. 157-1008-1A(1)

Date Received 7/3/66

From St. George House

(Name of contributor)

Baltimore, Md.

(Address of contributor)

By Frank J. Walsh

(Name of Special Agent)

To Be Returned Yes ()

No ()

Description:

1- Photo of Ernest Thomas
1- Photo of wife of Ernest
Thomas



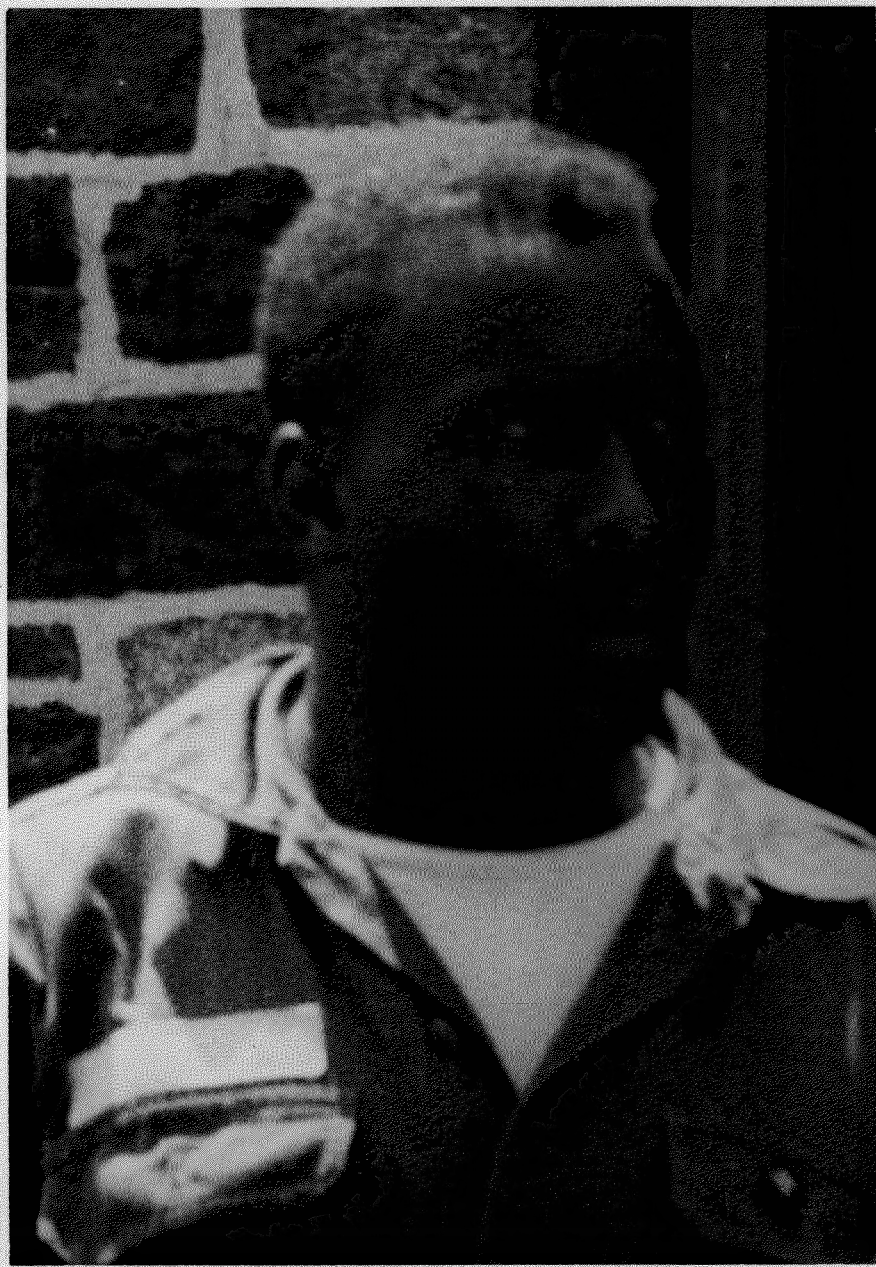
DATE- July 2nd, 1966

TIME- 2:45pm - 3:05pm

LOCATION Gay and Broadway Knox Pres. Church

ORGANIZATION (S) Deacons For Defense Of Justice

PERSON (S) Auto of Ernest Thomas, c/m/, Head of Deacons For
Defense Of Justice. Louisiana Tags 14F862
1959-60 Chrysler, Tan bottom, dark brown top.
This car has a 2 way Citizen's Band Radio.



DATE- 7/2/66

TIME- Between 2;45 & 3;05 PM

LOCATION Broadway & Gay Sts
Knox Pres. Church

ORGANIZATION (S) Deacons for defense
of justice

PERSON (S) EARNEST THOMAS